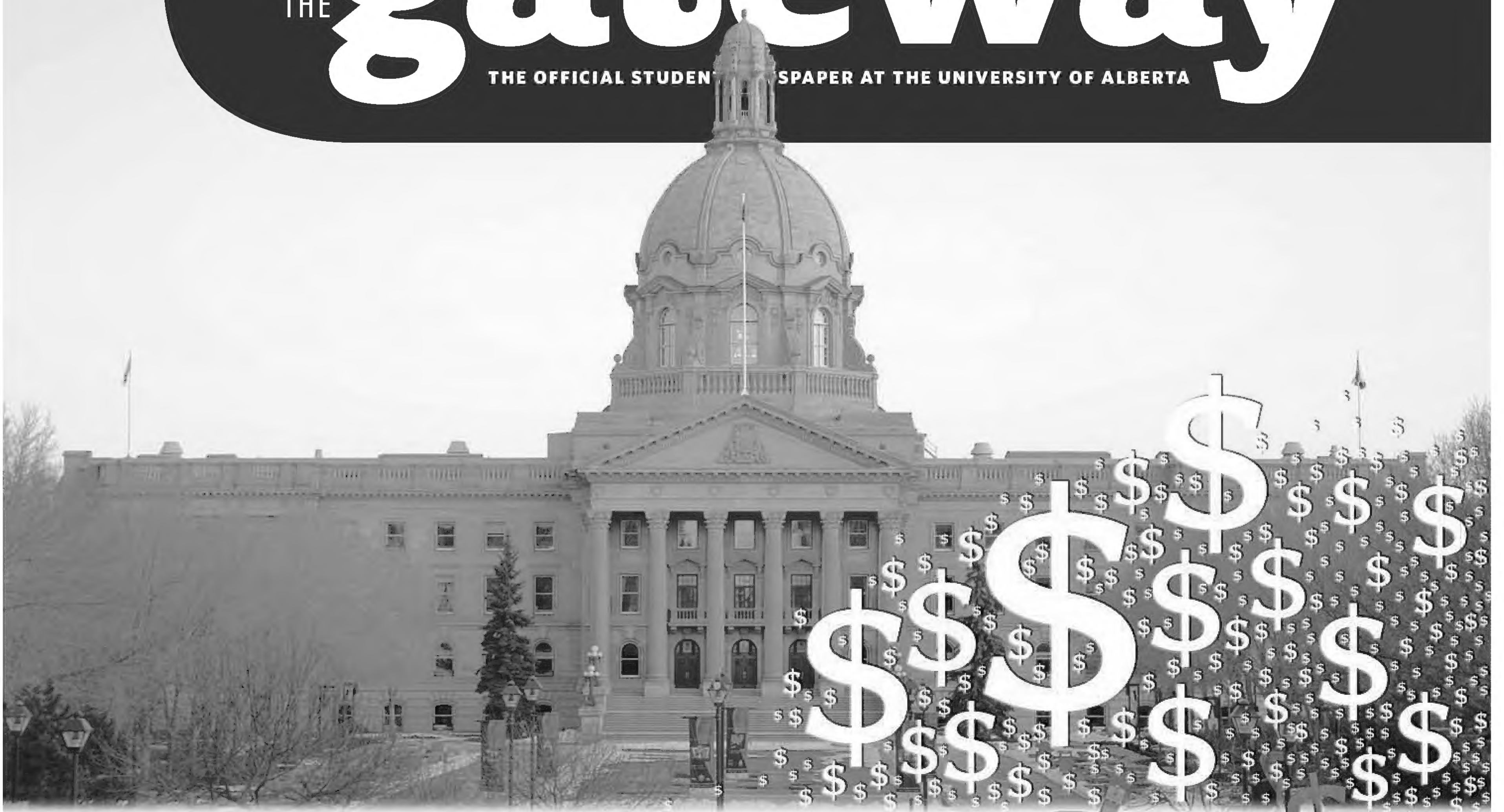


March 13th, 2013 ■ Issue No. 24 ■ Volume 103

# THE gateway

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT PAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA



## Budget Bloodbath



How the 2013 provincial budget will affect students,  
administration, and the heartbeat of campus.  
page 8



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colophon

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# Building blocks tear down stereotypes

Caitlin Hart  
NEWS WRITER

Stereotypes are falling apart every Friday in March in the ETLC Atrium as engineers construct games of giant Jenga to combat stereotypes about their faculty.

Part of the National Engineering and Geosciences Month, G-G-G-Giant Jenga! is organized by Engineers Without Borders and the Engineering Students' Society (ESS). Students from all faculties can join the fun — the Giant Jenga blocks are covered in stereotypes such as "There are no girls in engineering," and facts that refute these myths, including "20 per cent of the faculty is female."

Many students have added their own stereotypes to the blocks — ones they hope will fade in the future.

"A lot of these stereotypes are jokes, but they can have serious consequences," said Leanne Janke, a second-year civil engineering student who helped put the event into action. One consequence of these stereotypes is the lack of diverse students entering the faculty.

"We want to celebrate engineers, but also start a conversation," she said, adding that conversation is one of the best ways students can take action, since it gets people "out of the status quo" to think critically about how they view engineers.

Giant Jenga is a game played at many universities, and is only one event of many during the National Engineering and Geosciences Month.

Engineers, Janke says, hear frequent sexist



TIANBO LIU

jokes from their friends — something that hasn't stopped Janke and her classmates, Susan Hutchenson and Emily Dacko, from entering Engineering and representing their faculty at this event.

This is the event's first year, but Janke said she hopes it will expand and increase awareness in all faculties about what engineers do and who they are. The goal is not just to support those who have experienced discouragement from entering the faculty, but also to prevent stereotypes from spreading outside the field.

"Change starts with conversation," Janke said. By breaking stereotypes, she believes the field of engineering will grow in "powerful" ways.

Although Janke agreed with other participants that many people are able to move past stereotypes, she said the glass ceiling many women reach in their engineering careers remains a problem. Challenging such stereotypes further opens the field to those who don't fit the image of the skinny, socially-awkward engineer.

An eye-catching and interactive way to start a conversation about what holds people back, the event also directly contradicts one stereotype written on a Giant Jenga block: "Engineers don't participate in anything outside of class."

The full list of events for the National Engineering and Geosciences Month can be found at engineering.ualberta.ca.

## streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Andrea Ross + Griff Cornwall



Stephen Schiavone ARTS II

"It probably should bother me, but it doesn't really. I didn't use them; I just used the main bookstore in SUB."



Alyna Dhalla SCIENCE II

"Yeah, because they had great discounted books. And also, when you wanted to do book buyback, they took books back at all times — not like the bookstore in SUB that only takes them back during certain periods."



Kevin Jacobson ENGINEERING III

"I have never been to either of those bookstores, so it doesn't really bother me at all."



Chloe Speakman SCIENCE III

"The HUB Mall bookstore is closing? Yeah, I'll be sad to see that go. I love looking in their window, and it's a nice bookstore."

THE GATEWAY INTRODUCES... THE 2013/14 EDITORIAL STAFF! gateway



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# Bookstore outlets close doors

**Katelyn Hoffart**  
STAFF REPORTER • @KATELYNHOFFART

The final chapter is near for two University of Alberta bookstores that will be closing their doors permanently due to their unsustainable level of business.

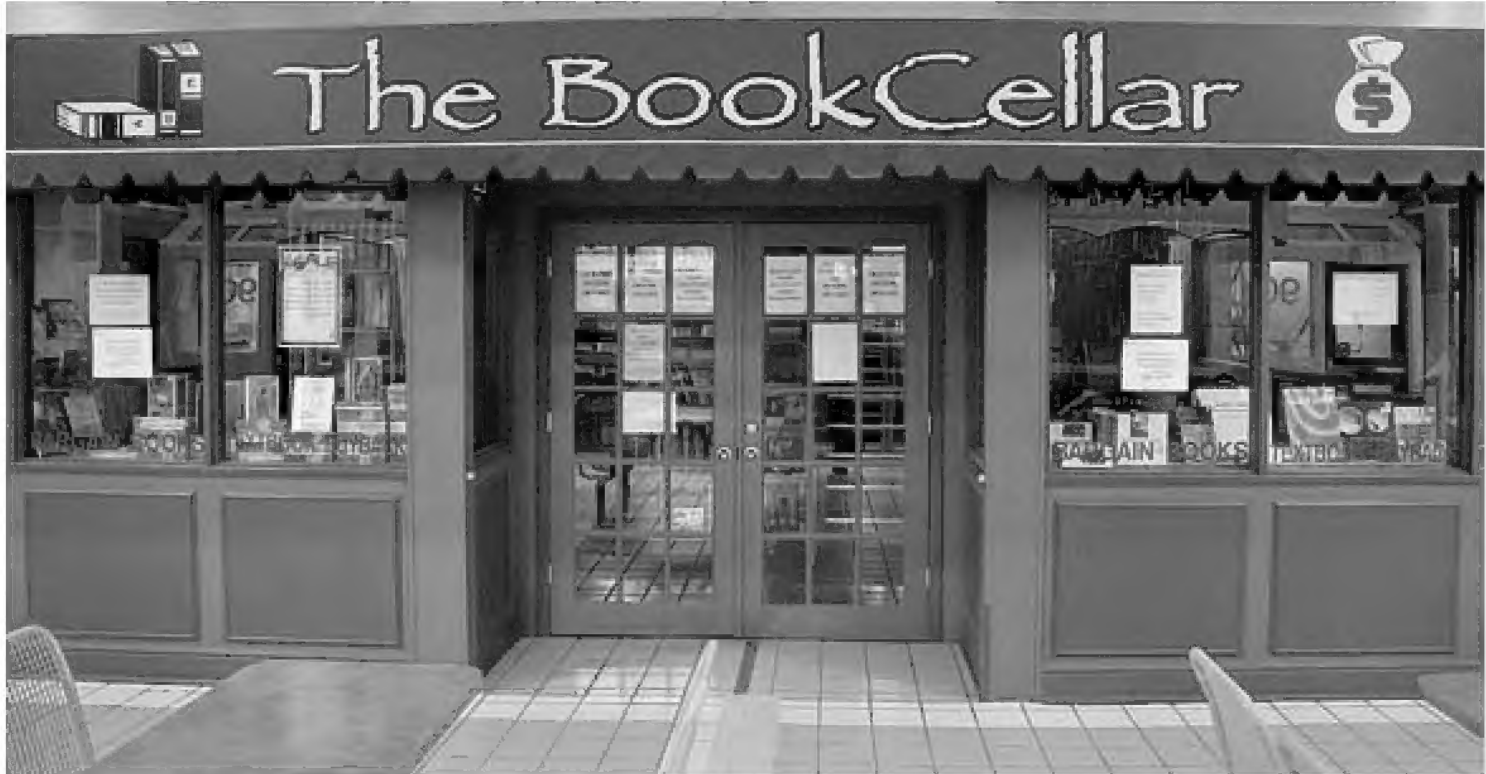
Rutherford Corner in downtown Enterprise Square has closed immediately, while the BookCellar in HUB mall will remain open until the end of April, closing once the winter term wraps up.

"Those operations had been unsustainable for some time ... Finance was certainly a part of that cost, and what's the best and most efficient way of providing services to students — which is ultimately what it's about," said Jason Cobb, Assessment and Communications Manager for the Office of the Dean of Students.

Both stores operate within the administration of the Office of the Dean of Students, which plans to re-integrate some aspects of the two businesses more efficiently into the main U of A Bookstore in SUB. However, Cobb said since their specialized services catered to a smaller number of students, it remains uncertain to what degree this re-integration will extend.

"The remainder of business is a pretty low margin — and what the value of (those services are) and how it meets the mandate and goals of the bookstore, I'm not sure," Cobb said.

"A lot of stuff that was at Rutherford Corner is found to some degree in the main bookstore already. And maybe if there were some product lines in one location and some product lines in the other, now you'll just find them all in the one location, as long as they're a product that is selling and that students are interested in."



THE LAST PAGE HUB's Book Cellar is one of two closing bookstore locations. GRIFF CORNWALL

Students from the Faculty of Extension or those taking ESL courses downtown will still be able to purchase their materials from the location in SUB. The Faculty of Law textbooks sold at the BookCellar will also be available at the main store.

However, the unique discounted book services the BookCellar offered may present more of a challenge to integrate.

"I think it's important to see how products will do in the different location. Maybe they weren't good performers in the previous location, maybe with bigger traffic and more regular students in the main store it'll be a different story," Cobb said.

Although it may seem timely that the closure of the bookstores was made just before the announcement of major provincial budget cuts to post-secondary education, the decision was made long before and has taken the time to follow proper shut-down procedures, according to Cobb.

Three jobs in total will be cut with these closures. Cobb said upholding sensitivity and fairness towards the employees whose positions will be terminated has also been a key part of the process.

Students' Union Vice-President (Academic) Dustin Chelen said he

was glad to see efforts made to create a more efficient bookstore — a suggestion that was part of the SU's submission to the bookstore's strategic plan earlier in the school year.

"That being said, I'm hopeful that this won't result in cuts to students who were served by the BookCellar in HUB, and cuts to students who primarily take classes (in) Enterprise Square," Chelen added.

"(But) I think the increases in e-textbooks as well as improvements in the online ordering system will hopefully make it less of a noticeable gap for students."

The low amount of traffic at the downtown location was a large determining factor that led to the closure, which will save the university money by combining these businesses into a more efficient model.

But for the BookCellar, more than two decades of business has given it a great deal of irreplaceable sentimental value for those who frequent the store.

"Hopefully people aren't too disappointed. I think they will understand — most students will, especially in today's environment — that we need to be as optimal and efficient as possible while maintaining that level of quality," Cobb said.

## Tax reform an acceptable option, study says

**Billy-Ray Belcourt**  
NEWS STAFF • @BILLYRAYB

"My biggest fear would be that we could see the government giving in to those voices demanding further (spending) cuts," says Trevor Harrison, director of the University of Alberta's Parkland Institute.

A report released by the institute, titled Stabilizing Alberta's revenues: A common sense approach, claims the solution to the province's increasing financial burden lies in a return to a progressive tax system and an increase in corporate taxation.

The co-authors of the report, Harrison, Parkland Institute research director Shannon Stunden Bower and public finance economist Greg Flanagan, suggest that the current flat tax system in Alberta — a tax regime based on 10 per cent taxation across all income levels — has resulted in more harm than good.

"There are a couple of implications to (the flat tax system). One is that we see an increase in inequality in the province, so the gap between the very richest and the poorest is increasing," Harrison said.

Harrison argues that the flat tax system, coupled with the government's over-reliance on natural resource revenues and royalties from oil and gas, has fostered increasing financial instability.

"A lot of things that are really important to society's functioning, such as education, health care, social services (and) housing for people who are in need ... are ongoing needs. You can't pull back in a given year

and say, 'Well, we're not going to do these things, because we don't have the money this year,'" he explained.

"Royalty streams tend to be extremely volatile, and Alberta's economy over several decades has easily been the most volatile in all of Canada."

With the Alberta government projecting a deficit of \$1.98 billion during Thursday's 2013 budget release, stress is being placed on the public sector as the government initiates spending cuts across a number of departments.

**“There is significant support for ... the idea that people with more money should pay a higher fraction of their income taxes.”**

SHANNON STUNDEN BOWER  
RESEARCH DIRECTOR, PARKLAND INSTITUTE

During a televised address in late January, Premier Alison Redford acknowledged that the current financial woes are largely a result of the unreliability of the oil and gas industry creating unstable revenue streams. In an interview with the *Edmonton Journal*, Redford stated her government wouldn't "take the easy way out" by raising taxes, but instead would approach spending with vigilance.

But Harrison argues that increasing corporate taxes and re-adopting a progressive tax system would

alleviate some of the province's budgetary issues.

"By raising corporate taxes ... from 10 per cent to 12 per cent and moving to a progressive tax system, we estimate that at the very least we could be bringing in \$3 to \$4 billion extra a year," he explained.

The report used the 2012 All-Alberta Survey results to prove that a substantial portion of Albertans — 40 per cent — would endorse an increase in taxes, and 60 per cent also feel that individuals with higher incomes should pay more taxes.

"We found, in fact, that there is significant support for progressive taxation, for the idea that people with more money should pay a higher fraction of their income taxes," Stunden Bower said.

"Support (for tax reform) was substantial across a variety of socio-economic variables, and across geographic location."

She cautioned that if the government fails to introduce a new tax regime and decides to resort to spending cuts, Albertans will continue to experience increasing financial pressure.

"There may not be a whole lot of room to shrink expenditures without impacting the services that Albertans depend on day-in and day-out," she said.

"Sooner or later, Albertans are going to have to pay for whatever services (and) whatever infrastructure they need out of their own pockets."

The full report is available to the public on the institute's website at parklandinstitute.ca



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GRIFF CORNWALL

## Sleepless volunteers brave first night of YESS fundraiser

**Andrea Ross**  
NEWS STAFF • @\_ROSSANDREA

Following their first night on Sunday braving the cold, seven students from the Faculty of Business have prepared to sleep outside the Business building for the rest of the week to raise money for the Youth Empowerment and Support Services (YESS).

A non-profit organization and shelter that provides basic necessities and opportunities to at-risk youth, YESS will hopefully be the recipient of \$30,000 — the target goal of this year's 5 Days for the Homeless. After a sleepless first night outside, the seven student volunteers have already gotten their first taste of life on the streets.

"Just from the first night, the concrete is completely different from a nice, comfy bed," said first-year Business volunteer Joshua Tang. "It's cold, really cold in the morning. We have cardboard (to lay on), but it's hard."

Participants are allowed only a pillow, sleeping bag and the clothes on their back. They have no access to showers, and food can only be received through direct donations. If the discomfort of the first night is any indicator of what's to come, the students may find themselves sleep-deprived for the duration of

the event.

"I thought that falling asleep and staying asleep would be the hardest part, just because there is all this external noise around you that you don't usually notice," said participant and event chair Maryna Vysotski. "There's a flickering light right near where we sleep, so every few seconds it turns on and off all night long."

**"We all realize that this is nothing close to what homeless people have to deal with every day, and we never claim it to be."**

MARYNA VYSOTSKI  
LOCAL CHAIR, 5 DAYS FOR THE HOMELESS

This year's 5 Days For The Homeless fundraiser is particularly important for YESS, since the organization experienced service cuts and layoffs in January that put its future in jeopardy.

For event participants, personal discomfort is a small price to pay to help support a vital local organization for at-risk youth — and Tang believes sleeping outside may become easier as the days go on and participants begin to adjust to the changed environment.

"I think we will (eventually) be tired enough that we hopefully just pass out," he said. "I've heard that in previous years by the third night they just get really tired and used to the concrete, so they'll be able to go to sleep right away."

While participating in 5 Days For The Homeless, the students must continue to attend class and complete assignments.

However, though they are only faced with the discomfort of sleeping in the cold for a limited time, Vysotski said nights spent on the street is the reality for many at-risk youth in Edmonton, where notoriously cold winters pose a tangible danger.

"I think we all realize that this is nothing close to what homeless people have to deal with every day, and we never claim it to be," she said. "We do want to raise some awareness, and the biggest part is that this is only five days for us, but for a homeless person, this is their lifestyle."

"I just think that it's important for people to think about the youth out there doing this every day of their lives. They really are just like you and I but in different circumstances, so that's just something (to keep) in mind."

The fundraiser runs March 10-15, and is accepting donations at [fivedays.ca](http://fivedays.ca).

## International Women's Day panel takes on big issues in university gender equality

**Megan Hymanyk**  
NEWS WRITER

A collaboration of women and men alike gathered Wednesday night in the Telus Centre for the International Women's Day Panel Discussion, where the status of women in the academic world was examined and contested.

Four members of the U of A's professoriate — Laura Beard, Janet Elliott, Nathalie Kermoal and Lili Liu — accompanied associate professor Malinda Smith, who initiated the evening's events with a brief history of International Women's Day, before introducing her contemporaries.

Each of the four panellists had 10 minutes to address the issues at hand regarding women at the U of A and in post-secondary institutions across the country.

Liu, who earned her Bachelor of Science in occupational therapy followed by her PhD in rehabilitation science from McGill University, and now sits as Chair of Occupational Therapy, discussed the

shrinking number of women the further up the ranks one goes in education.

"PhD programs are equally male and female, but if you follow careers up to the senior level, it is the males that reach that, whereas women have dropped off," she said.

**"We have more full male professors at the University of Alberta than we have women in the entire professoriate."**

LILI LIU  
CHAIR, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

"We have more full male professors at the University of Alberta than we have women in the entire professoriate."

One dimension of the discussion was the different experiences each panellist had regarding their balance between life and work.

A mother and U of A professor in

thermodynamics, Elliott said achieving firsts has never been new to her — she was the first woman to graduate with a Bachelor of Science in the Physics option of Engineering Science from the University of Toronto, and the first Canadian Research Chair to go on maternity leave.

"New and different (isn't) a barrier — it's just new and different," she said.

She added she has never felt out of place in her male-dominated field, and said she received an immensely positive reaction from her faculty when balancing her work with being a mother.

In contrast to Elliott's experience, Beard offered an opposing view, stating that women have a long way to go concerning gender equality and work-life balance.

"It's all the little micro-inequalities that add up to make the climate unequal," she said.

Beard said she found herself subject to these inequalities when pregnant, and questioned why, on a world leading campus, there is not sufficient childcare.



# Vibrator massage holds the answer to vocal cord bliss

Search for larynx massager leads University of Alberta professor to discover solution for vocal cord tension, fatigue or over-use

**Alana Willerton**

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR • @ALANAWILLERTON

Holding a sex toy to your throat could be the answer to improving vocal power and reducing tension in the vocal chords.

David Ley, a voice and dialect coach at the University of Alberta, has developed a revolutionary voice technique in which he massages the vocal chords of people who suffer from vocal tension, fatigue or overuse with a small, handheld vibrator.

The toy reaches a frequency of 110–120 hertz, matching the range of a human voice and effectively reducing the tension that causes these vocal problems.

The technique works on a wide range of people who, by virtue of the needs of their occupation, tend to overuse or stress their voice.

Ley says this could apply to anyone from performers to teachers to coaches, who often don't realize the strain they are putting on their voice.

"When people think of their voice, they don't seem to think about it in the way they would think about their leg. It's really muscle, a ligament; it's all these things that

respond in the same way to over-use that any other part of our body would," Ley said.

"When we're running, tension will often stop us from running. But tension in our throat never stops us from speaking."

Ley originally discovered the effectiveness of the vibrator after a friend came to him suffering from throat issues, and he attempted to find a solution for her over-taxed voice.

Looking for a handheld vibrating object that could massage her larynx much like a laryngeal massage would, Ley unexpectedly found the solution to his query in a local sex shop.

The results were immediate for Ley's friend, and ever since then, he's diligently tried the technique out on more than 100 people.

Ley says everyone has responded "incredibly positively" to the technique, which acts as a quick and effective way to warm up the vocal chords and release tension.

"I can get what I get out of a 25 minutes warm-up in six or seven minutes with the vibrator," Ley said.

"It just seems to really stimulate a lot of the same kind of things."



ALANA WILLERTON

Ley is currently working with the U of A's Speech Pathology department to discover the long-term medical implications of his technique, which he says is an unusual relationship.

"I don't know of any other drama department which has that relationship with the speech pathology department," he said.

"I think it's really great because I can wander around and say I've got

this really great idea and that's fine if I just want to work with actors and singers. But if (the technique) wants to be something more than that, then it really has to be explored in that world.

"Being able to connect here to that department is really important, and it provides me with a level of scientific and theoretical exploration that is really helpful in supporting how this is going to be used and what I'm going to be able to do with it."

Ley will be presenting his findings to the world's top voice scientists at the Voice Foundation Symposium in Philadelphia this spring, and hopes to eventually overcome the negative connotations a vibrator brings by developing a specific device for the technique.

"I did this with my 85-year old father because his voice was starting to deteriorate and he thought it was great and he wanted to get one. But there's no way he's ordering a (sex toy), even online," Ley said.

"So I think were there to be something which was a device that was devised for and specifically engineered to do this, then it would both make it maybe a little more effective, but also make it a lot more easy for people to accept it."

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# Nano mixer celebrates industry

**Teddy Carter**  
NEWS STAFF

At last week’s nanoNEXUS student-industry mixer, most attendants agreed nanobots will not be taking over the world any time soon. However, Executive Director of Partnerships and Collaborations for Alberta Innovates Technology Futures Karen Young thinks nano-technology will eventually be able to address an array of problems in various societal sectors.

“The neat thing about nanotechnology being a platform is that it can help in the health sector, it can help in the oil and gas sector, it can help in the environmental monitoring sector, (agriculture) and food, all this stuff,” she said.

Alberta Innovates Technology Futures is a provincial corporation funded largely by the Government of Alberta. In 2007, the government introduced the Alberta Nanotechnology Strategy, which aims for Alberta to achieve a two per cent share of the global nanotechnology market by 2020.

Young’s enthusiasm was mirrored by others who attended the event, including University of Alberta students, industry investors and leaders.

Fuel for that enthusiasm came from speakers, many of whom

hailed from small and medium enterprises (SMEs) specializing in developing nanotechnology, which receive support through Young’s organization.

Speaker Darryl Lesiuk represented Technology Commercialization Partnership (TCP), an investment group focused on technology. Lesiuk encouraged a bold attitude towards free enterprise.

■ **“There (are) only two risks that a company can ever take — and that’s either be wildly successful or fail.”**

DARRYL LESIUK  
EXECUTIVE FELLOW, U OF A TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION CENTER

“What is the risk of starting a company? It’s the risk of stretching yourself, challenging yourself to do something that you want to do. I don’t see that as risky,” Lesiuk said.

“There (are) only two risks that a company can ever take — and that’s either be wildly successful or fail.”

TCP also contributed to the event by holding a nexusPITCH contest, where students and researchers were invited to present five minute

Dragon’s Den style pitches to TCP company members for a first-place prize of \$1,000.

Two student groups on campus were involved in organizing the evening. Representing ABCampus and the U of A Nanotechnology Group, respectively, were President Neda Dalili and President Ryan Tucker. In addition to their groups’ planning duties, the two acted as joint masters of ceremonies.

“Our main mandate is to create relationships between students of all disciplines and industry partners and mentors. It helps (the students) to improve their professional skills and also entrepreneurial skills,” Dalili said.

“We want to create a stronger sense of community focused on micro and nanotechnology.”

Like Dalili, Tucker also noted the need for strengthening ties in Alberta’s nanotechnology community. Tucker added the event fills a spot the industry has been missing.

“We looked around and there wasn’t really a celebration of our industry,” he said.

Tucker’s group is also focused on student recruitment.

“(We want) to get students engaged in nanotech and high tech activities outside of the universities,” he said.

## events listings

### Campus Forum

Wednesday, March 13, 12 – 1 p.m.  
ECHA L1-490

### Open House — Amendment to Land Use Plans for South Campus

Thursday, March 14, 5:30 – 9 p.m.  
McKernan School (11330 76 Ave.)

### Pride Week Campaign Launch

Friday, March 15, 1 – 2 p.m.  
Timms Centre for the Arts

### Winter Term Course Withdrawal Deadline

Friday, March 15

### Grad Fair

Tuesday, March 19, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Dinwoodie Lounge

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# Federal funding to tackle issue of Canadian isotope shortage

**Teddy Carter**  
NEWS STAFF

The federal government has announced a funding bump for the University of Alberta's cyclotron project in a continuing effort to avert a country-wide shortage of medical isotopes.

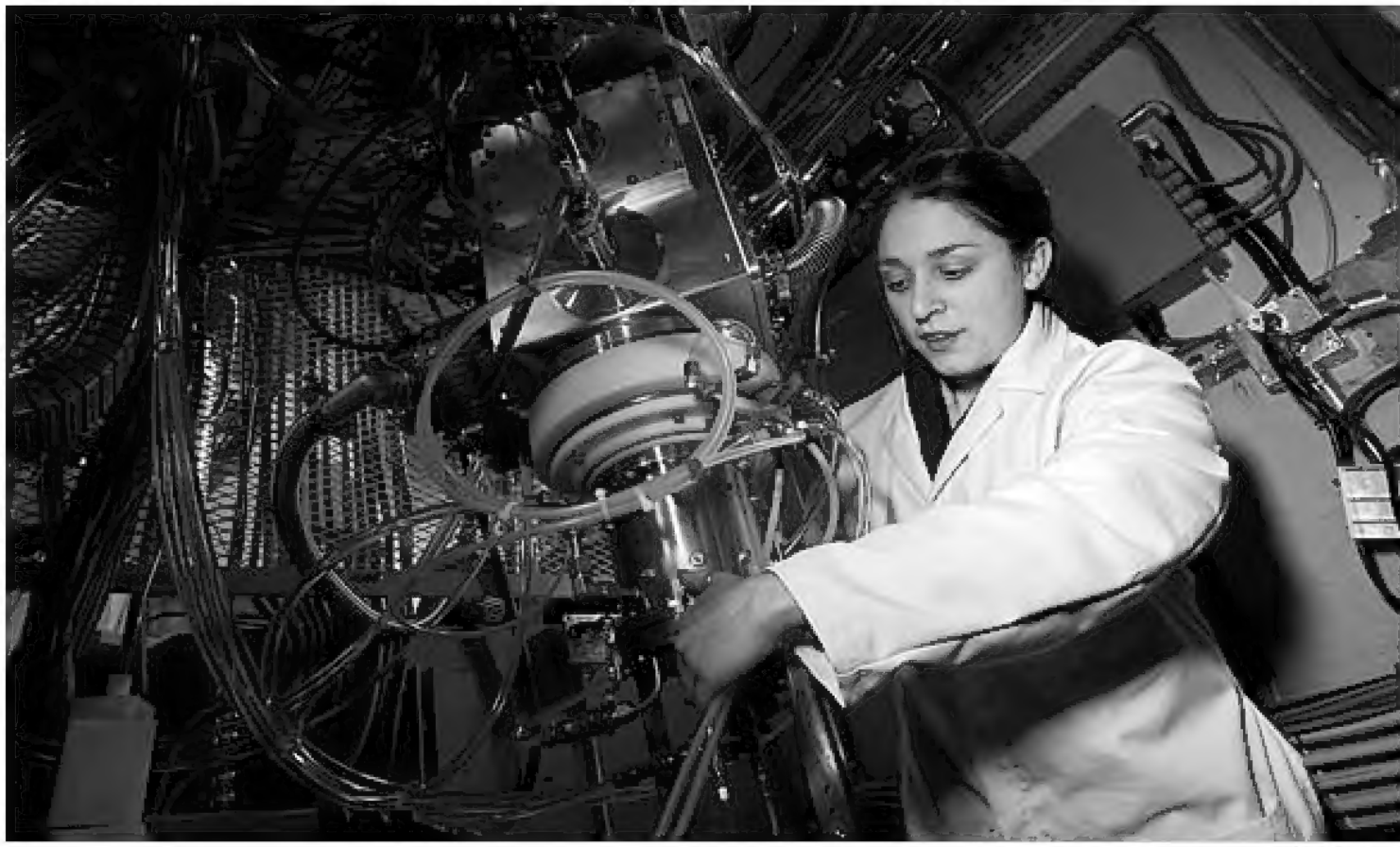
The cyclotron project, which produces the medical isotope Technetium-99 (Tc-99m), will be sharing \$21 million in new government funding with two other research groups located in British Columbia and Manitoba. This funding comes from the Isotope Technology Acceleration Program (ITAP), a follow-up to 2010's Non-reactor-based Isotope Supply Contribution Program (NISP).

Cyclotron team members Steve McQuarrie and Katie Gagnon from the Oncology department say the funding will go towards increasing the amount of isotopes produced — one of the final stages of their project.

"There's some research involved on that front to take (the level of Tc-99m) ... developed so far at the Cross Cancer Institute and bring it over to the new facility and get it up to commercial production levels," said Gagnon.

Medical isotopes have repeatedly made national headlines over the past half-decade due to global shortages, such as a 2009 incident that saw the now-outdated nuclear reactor in Chalk River, Ontario shut down due to a heavy water leak. At the time, Chalk River was producing up to 30 per cent of the world's supply of medical isotopes, and the shutdown contributed to a global shortage.

These particles, and particularly Tc-m99, are used in the diagnosis and treatment of many conditions, including cancer.



JOHN ULAN

The 2009 shortage resulted in concern about patients being able to receive proper care.

National anxiety over the 2009 shortage came to a head when the Canadian Natural Resources Minister Lisa Raitt was unknowingly recorded referring to the isotope shortage crisis as "sexy." Shortly thereafter, Raitt was moved to a different ministry, although Prime Minister Stephen Harper publicly defended her.

Following this, in 2010, the Canadian Government committed \$35 million towards NISP. This program was to promote alternative isotope supply options in the face of the aging Chalk River facility. It put out a Request for Project Proposals (RPP), and that's when the cyclotron team got involved.

"A lot of (the proposal was) based on Katie's research as a graduate student. A lot of the material that went in there had developed a past showing that it does work," McQuarrie said.

Since then, the development of alternative methods for supplying medical isotopes has been billed as a race between projects receiving NISP funding.

"Natural Resources Canada

received seven proposals from a range of academic, private and public sector organizations from across Canada," said a statement from the Office of Natural Resources, on behalf of Minister Joe Oliver.

"The RPP was a competitive process," the statement continued.

From that group of seven proposals, four projects, including the U of A's project, received funding. Now, with the newest round of government funding through ITAP, that number has been whittled down to three: two groups using cyclotron technology and one using linear accelerator technology.

While the NISP and ITAP initiatives appear to have eased the pressure felt by the government to stabilize Canada's supply of medical isotopes, the U of A has felt local pressure from citizens.

In 2011, the South Campus Neighbourhood Coalition unsuccessfully attempted to sue the university to prevent it from building a new cyclotron facility on the old Balmoral rink.

The Balmoral repurposing project is now nearly complete, and later this month the new Medical Isotope and Cyclotron Facility will open its doors to McQuarrie, Gagnon and the rest of their research team.

# Pioneering study reveals unprecedented provincial support for assisted suicide

**Katelyn Hoffart**  
STAFF REPORTER • @KATELYNHOFART

In the first study of its kind, one U of A researcher has found that 77.4 per cent of Albertans believe the right to assisted suicide should exist.

The survey assessed 1,203 people, with questions that included whether dying adults should be able to request help to end their lives early, if the participants had ever looked after a dying person, if they had ever had to make a decision about another's life support treatment and whether they had ever had a pet euthanized.

Lead researcher and Nursing professor Donna Wilson spent 10 years as a nurse before carrying out research relating to health policies and services for the past 25 years at the U of A. She's specifically interested in aging populations and end-of-life care, and how the health care system can meet these different needs and interests.

The project began as an interest in surveying what percentage of Albertans have living wills — a written statement outlining medical actions to be taken in the case where the person becomes too ill, unconscious or otherwise unable to express their wishes.

"A researcher, a post-doctoral fellow from Belgium, came and worked with me — and of course Belgium

is one of the few places in the world where assisted suicide is legal, and it has been for about 10 years," Wilson said.

"So he also suggested, 'Why don't you put in a question about whether the public was basically in favour of assisted suicide or euthanasia?'"

A surprising 44 per cent was found to have these living wills, which further led to the curiosity of where Albertans stood on the matter of assisted suicide.

Once a research ethics lab committee reviewed the study, an enormous amount of effort was put into the U of A Population Research Lab conducting the survey by telephone.

One-third of the surveyed population had to be from the Edmonton area, another third from Calgary, with the rest representing other areas of Alberta. Those interviewed were comprised equally of male and female subjects, and represented a wide range of ages, backgrounds and religions.

When asked whether they supported assisted suicide, 36.8 per cent said yes while another 40.6 said yes, but only in certain circumstances. The remaining 22.6 per cent answered no.

Additionally, 75 per cent of survey participants who have had a pet euthanized said yes to have the right to assisted suicide, while 95 per cent

of those who had ever had a close friend or family member die were also in support.

"These are people whose life experiences have perhaps contributed to them being much more open about assisted suicide," Wilson said.

"I thought it would be 50 per cent; I had no idea it would be almost 80 per cent. I was totally surprised."

Places like Quebec are currently trying to follow after Belgium with developing a law that permits assisted suicide.

Wilson said if laws for this were to be put in place, it would be essential to go through a very thorough process to create careful policies, ensuring vulnerable people are protected.

Rather than advocating for either stance of the issue, Wilson just wants to continue garnering conversation surrounding the topic.

"Nowhere in the world had a general population been asked, 'Are you in favour of this or not?' So we really felt that this would be an important knowledge to gather and to share," Wilson said.

"We're presenting it at conferences and I'm giving talks on it and everything else. What I hope to do again is just to get people thinking on this — for groups or individuals to use this knowledge in responsible ways."

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# Budget Bloodbath

An overview of the Alberta Budget 2013

by April Hudson and Michelle Mark, photos by Griffin Cornwall

As talk of a bursting “bitumen bubble” grows, the 2013 Alberta budget holds mixed news for the province’s stakeholders.

An operational expense estimate that’s flatlined at \$36.4 billion has left the government with little flexibility to provide necessary funding increases to post-secondary institutions. A decade of average annual expense increases of 7.3 per cent juxtaposes 2013’s sudden zero per cent increase.

This year, that 7.3 per cent would have added approximately \$2.66 billion to the expense budget — a number the government has had to make up for in cuts by reneging on some of last year’s budgetary promises.

With 83 per cent of the Alberta budget going to only four ministries — Advanced Education, Education, Health Care and Human Resources — government officials say the decision came down to cutting into the budgets of these four or eliminating all other ministries in order to meet budgetary targets.

For post-secondary education, governed by the Ministry of Enterprise and Advanced Education and funded by a block grant called the Campus Alberta Grant, the 2012 Budget promised institutions a two per cent increase each year over a three-year span — a reprieve after years of zero per cent increases.

That two per cent was still not enough for the University of Alberta, which needs an annual four per cent increase to break even due to inflation.

In March 7’s provincial budget release, the two per cent increase was slashed down to a decrease of 7.2 per cent — an approximately \$43 million cut to a \$550 million institutional budget.

This 7.2 per cent is in addition to a \$12 million structural deficit, representing an additional two per cent decrease.

As the university begins to use the term “cuts” for the first time, speculation is flying about what exactly will be cut and how the changes will affect students.

## Effects on Students

University of Alberta students remain on edge, awaiting news of how the 7.2 per cent cut to the institution’s budget will impact the quality and accessibility of their education.

Program cuts, research funding, staff salaries and mandatory non-instructional fees will all be up for debate in the coming weeks as the May 31 deadline approaches for the university

to submit an action plan to the government.

President Indira Samarasekera has already said the cuts will have a direct impact on the U of A’s quality, and that the administration will be faced with difficult decisions.

“All of the assistance we provide students are going to (be) on the block,” she said immediately following the budget release.

“Quite frankly, there’s going to be a very significant reduction in quality of the student experience.”

Students’ Union President Colten Yamagishi said he hopes to put pressure on the university to avoid raising costs for students.

“We’re hoping there will be no move for tuition increases, mandatory non-instructional fees or market modifiers coming in the future,” he said.

“The government has made it really clear that they will not allow a tuition increase, so I think that could be a serious point of contention between the university and the government.”

SU Vice-President (External) Petros Kusmu echoed Yamagishi’s sentiments, but also blasted the government for not investing in the U of A at a critical point in the province’s economy.

“If we’re talking about feasibility, how is it feasible to cut the very same thing that’s going to stimulate your own economy?” he said.

“If we’re talking about, ‘Well, let’s be feasible, Petros — let’s be feasible with where our money is spent,’ then get your shit together.

“We’re talking about economic diversification. We’re talking about bringing in more labour to Alberta. We’re talking about just making Alberta a better place. Post-secondary education does that,” he added.

## The Comprehensive Institutional Plan

Among top concerns at the U of A is the fate of the 2013-14 Comprehensive Institutional Plan (CIP), which had already been drafted but will

now require extensive revisions in the wake of the budget cut.

The current draft was based on last year’s promised two per cent increase, and administration has criticized the government for failing to provide sufficient warning that severe cuts were imminent.

“I was horrified, because they could have given us some warning,” Samarasekera said following the budget’s release on March 7. “We’ve been asking for about two months, ‘Give us some numbers so we can plan.’”

Deputy Premier and Minister of Enterprise and Advanced Education Thomas Lukaszuk said post-secondary institutions had been warned to the fullest extent possible.

“I (had) spoken with all the presidents on at least two occasions, giving them a warning that there will be significant changes,” he said. “I guess my definition of ‘significant changes’ and theirs must have differed a little.”

Samarasekera’s Feb. 28 State of the University address revealed the university was conscious of approaching budget cuts, albeit not to the extent delivered by the government. She did not explain why the CIP draft did not take these expectations into account.

“We now know that the promised two per cent increase to the Campus Alberta grant is in jeopardy — serious jeopardy,” she cautioned at the time.

“If, on March 7, we receive news of a decrease to the planned two per cent increase, we will have to completely revise our plans.”

## Administrative Plans

Decisions may still be in their preliminary stages, but the big question in many university students’ minds is “What will the administration do next?”

While the U of A prepares to batten down the hatches, members of the community are in uproar.

U of A professor Jeremy Richard’s Whither The U of A? blog calls for the government to be voted out of office for “failing its population so spectacularly.” He adds a mass resignation from the U of A’s Board of Governors would send a clear message. Meanwhile, students are organizing marches to the Legislature.

However, upper administration is approaching the situation with somewhat cooler heads.

“We are not going to run around with our hair on fire,” Samarasekera said Friday.

“(This is) going to require us to look very strategically at programs, services, everything across the institution with the view to strengthening the institution, not weakening it.”

Now that the university’s Comprehensive Institutional Plan has been delayed until May 31, there’s a window of opportunity for administration to have at least some time to discuss cuts.

As of a March 11 news release, the university announced that previously planned 1.5 per cent across-the-board cuts to all units and faculties will be implemented. Additionally, immediate restrictions have been placed on travel budgets supported by operating funds or provincial funding.

And the university isn’t the only institution tightening its belt. Lukaszuk is facing a 3.6 per cent to his own ministry, which he says will result in a cut of approximately 10 per cent of the ministry’s middle management staff over the next few years.

“We have 26 schools that have to go through (these cuts), but I am also putting myself through it — you can’t lead and not lead by example,” he said.

“Right now, I couldn’t look you straight in the eyes and tell you that we are delivering (education) most efficiently.”

On the student side, Yamagishi fears plans for market modifier proposals could be in the works to deal with the cuts.

“Is it the right thing to do? Absolutely not, but they’re in a tight bind right now,” he said.

“I think we really need to start taking a look at administrative and academic staff wages, because they’re looking at a four per cent increase every year and it’s tough to provide four per cent when you’re getting minus 6.8.”

## Mandate Letters

In an effort to guide Alberta schools through the worst of the cuts, Lukaszuk has announced he will be sending mandate letters to the leaders of all 26 post-secondary education institutions in the province.

The letters will seek out opportunities for increased inter-school collaboration.

“I will be compelling schools to start working together,” he said.

“We will develop a working group of all leaders of all institutions, and we will be identifying all the areas where collaboration can be found, where efficiencies can be found. And then my Ministry will be coordinating it.”



Lukaszuk mentioned the current lack of credit transferability between Alberta institutions as a problem, and said increased portability will eventually save students, taxpayers and post-secondary institutions money.

“A student moving from the University of Lethbridge to the University of Alberta will not have all her credits recognized in the same province,” he said.

“Two schools paid for by the same taxpayers, and now she has to take five or six courses all over again because credits don’t transfer. That’s ridiculous ... Why does it have to be that way?”

Although most stakeholders are reserving judgment until closer examination, the mandate letters have some student leaders wary that the elimination of duplicated programs will negatively impact Alberta students — particularly those from rural or Aboriginal communities.

Yamagishi said although the letters may prove helpful to Alberta post-secondary schools, at this point leaders can only speculate about what their contents will entail.

“It really depends on what the conditions are. I don’t disagree with them trying to provide direction, but I haven’t taken a look at the letter myself, so until I saw what’s in it, that would be a big factor in whether I think it’s a good idea or not,” he said.

Alberta Students’ Executive Council (ASEC) chair Matthew Armstrong said the mandate letters’ emphasis on inter-school collaboration could ultimately have a positive effect on Alberta post-secondary students.

“We represent all five public sectors of students. We represent everyone from colleges, polytechnics, universities, grads and undergrads, and for us that’s really good,” he said.

“If we can find a way to increase transferability and mobility, it’s only going to be positive for Alberta, and it’s only going to be positive for students.”

Lukaszuk emphasized the value of new opportunities for increased collaboration and reorganization within Alberta’s post-secondary education system, despite the apparent severity of the funding losses.

“We often don’t think of students as customers, but you are. You’re paying for a service: you want to get the best education possible, the most relevant education possible, at the least cost,” he said.

### Projection for Students

But while the university gears up to weather the storm, there is a genuine fear that students will be left out in the rain.

Despite Alberta Premier Alison Redford’s statements that post-secondary tuition will not go up while she is in office, the provincial tuition cap certainly holds back a great deal of revenue the university could otherwise use.

In particular, Samarasekera has discussed graduate tuition as a possible area to review.

“We need to invest more in (our) professional programs to give them a much higher quality,” she said.

“Then the increased tuition that we should be allowed to charge is invested in scholarships so that students who would not otherwise be able to attend law school could attend — same with business school,” she continued.

“Right now, we’re subsidizing everybody, and I don’t think that’s good public policy.”

But tuition is not the only thing on the table. Immediately following the release of the

budget, Samarasekera said students will need to make peace with the possibility of not having access to the classes or services they expected.

“There’s going to be a very significant reduction in quality of the student experience — it’s quality that’s on the chopping block today, not access,” she said.

But Lukaszuk says he’s made a commitment to encourage post secondaries not to interfere with tuition, mandatory non-instructional fees and market modifiers.

He’s also talked about unprecedented, across-the-board changes for the province’s 26 post-secondary institutions.

The biggest of these changes has raised concerns that entire programs and departments could be slashed — a dramatic but not wholly unprecedented fear, with the provincial government trying to eliminate what it refers to as “inefficiencies.”

## “We are not going to run around with our hair on fire.”

~ Indira Samarasekera  
President, University of Alberta

“Why is it that we have a number of schools in Alberta that offer, for example, Bachelor of Education degrees, and each one of them, at their own expense, developed its own curriculum? If it’s good for the U of A, why can’t the U of C use that curriculum?” Lukaszuk questioned.

“Why is the U of A offering an MBA program in Calgary, when the University of Calgary already has an MBA program? ... There are dozens and dozens of these examples where greater collaboration could be achieved.”

But students don’t need to worry that program slashes will mean they can’t finish a degree. Lukaszuk says anyone currently enrolled in a program of study will be able to complete it.

“Some find it unbelievable, but I think that having to go through this process can actually allow us to identify ways to improve the service to our students,” he said.

“In a province of four million ... we have 26 schools that operate totally independently of each other, with very little collaboration. That’s just not acceptable, and it shouldn’t be acceptable to students.”

Lukaszuk also addressed the issue of the student voice, noting that different Students’ Unions have varying degrees of advocacy within their respective institutions.

“One thing I will be doing is standardizing the role of student bodies in the decision-making processes in post-secondary education and making it more real, more meaningful,” he said.

“Students will get to voice their concerns, and then vote against (increases).”

### Student Financial Aid

While the overall news may be bad for the university, students who require financial aid don’t need to be concerned about the government cutting their funding.

The Alberta Budget 2013 has set aside \$425 million in student loans — an increase of 21 per cent — to go to more than 58,000 students over the next year.

Additionally, Student Aid programs are sitting at \$211 million — a number which includes \$71 million for merit-based scholarships to around 38,000 students, \$59 million for bursaries and grants to about 18,000 students, \$42 million for student debt management programs and \$11 million for Alberta Centennial Education Savings Plan grants.

However, Kusmu says what the government is touting as the “most generous scholarship program in Canada” is actually nothing to brag about.

“It was only four years ago that we had \$90 million more in scholarship, grants, bursaries (and) loan relief programs,” he said. “That’s the span of the average student’s (undergraduate career).”

The budget also includes a new grant for low-income students, but Kusmu says from his understanding that grant is extremely small.

“I couldn’t care less that you can boast about

how much you give in scholarships. Unless our post-secondary education participation rate is good, unless we’re finding those from lower, underrepresented backgrounds being in post-secondary education, then let’s not boast about that,” he said.

“The very same thing (the government) is cutting is the same thing that’s going to stimulate our own economy, is going to get (us) out of this economic rut.”

### The Future of the Student Temporary Employment Program

One of the biggest blows to Alberta university students so far has been the suspension of the Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP), a \$7 million program that employs 3,000 post-secondary students in full-time summer jobs each year.

This program cut will make Alberta the only province in Canada without a student work program.

Yamagishi called the suspension of STEP upsetting, saying the benefits of the program — not just to students, but to the province — far outweigh the expenses.

“When we look at cutting a program that’s \$7 million while we’re building \$300 million buildings — it’s just a drop in the bucket for a fantastic program that was giving students the ability to acquire their skills in a summer program,” he said.

“Students who work in libraries, museums, public centres in the summer — the contribution they make is worth so much more than the \$1,000 stipend they’re getting from STEP.”

However, Lukaszuk argued STEP is an unnecessary expense at a time when the province has a labour shortage.

“Right now, our employers are strapped for workers. They’re paying big bucks to bring workers from foreign countries just to make their businesses move along,” he said.

“We don’t need to entice employers to hire students. Employers simply will hire them because they need them.”

Many post-secondary students have countered that although it’s true the province has

a labour shortage, students will likely be hired only for low-paying, low-skill jobs, whereas STEP would have helped them find employment closer to their fields of study.

Incoming SU Vice-President (External) Adam Woods pointed out that the lack of a student employment program could result in a flooding of the job market over the summer as students scramble to find employment.

“It’s not easy to find a summer job that employs you for four months at 40 hours a week, and it’s something that this program did,” he said.

“So that’s 3,000 full-time jobs gone, and it means that there’s going to be 3,000 more students that are looking for a job, and that’s not a good thing for our market.”

In a message, Minister of Human Services Dave Hancock stated that the suspension of STEP had been a difficult decision, but the government had ultimately prioritized the funding needs of vulnerable Albertans over those of students seeking employment.

“We realize that STEP has provided an opportunity to introduce young people to careers in the (non-profit and voluntary sector),” he said.

“We will work with you to see how we can enhance opportunities in this area as we work to strengthen wage supports to stabilize the existing workforce, and make careers in the NPVS more financially viable.”

### Conclusion

The Alberta Budget 2013 holds some significant changes for students. Despite assurances from the government, students still worry tuition increases are in the future.

As the university faces down a potential province-wide transformation of post-secondary education and increasing direct interference from the government, it must also deal with dissenting internal factions as it makes the tough decisions necessary to balance its budget.

But there are key players yet to provide input on the situation. The university’s somewhat contentious Renaissance Committee, Umbrella Committee and Administrative Innovation and Process Review (AIPR) Task Force are all mandated to find ways to help with the situation — whether that means finding cuts, eliminating inefficiencies or reducing costs through other means.

Additionally, the university is being open with the campus community about what cuts might entail. The recently-launched Change@UALberta website gives a comprehensive look at how the university is handling the cutbacks, and continues to provide running updates on the fiscal situation.

Mandate letters will be received in the next few weeks, and from there it will be impossible to predict the outcome of this year’s financial bloodbath — at least until the CIP and institutional budget are released on May 31.

But despite all the uncertainty, a few things are for sure.

First, this year’s budget heralds a wave of change to Alberta’s post-secondary landscape — a change that might just undercut the U of A’s goal of rising to the top.

Second, the province’s 26 institutions will move closer to becoming a cohesive whole, sharing resources and possibly programs.

And lastly, no matter what happens to the CIP, students will feel the burden of this year’s cuts above anyone else.





# Opinion

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## Volunteer

Opinion meetings Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

# Funding cuts are a failure to invest in Alberta's future

THE UNIVERSITY BUDGET CUTS IN THE ALBERTA 2013 BUDGET last week was anything but anticipated for the majority of students. But the announcement was a huge shock to the administration with 7.2 per cent funding cut to the university — a stark contrast to the two per cent increase that the institution had expected following last year's promise.

While there were numerous rumours about the provincial government's decision to cut spending to post-secondary institutions, few foresaw the cuts being this drastic. Media coverage has discussed the biggest victims of these cuts being university students whose faculties could lose staff members, offer fewer classes or cut a program completely — depending how the U of A slashes costs to account for the change.

But the coverage hasn't given as much attention to one of the most glaring problems with the government's new plan to create a more co-operative partnership amongst Alberta's universities, colleges and technical institutes. The announcement of the budget and the new vision for education in Alberta undercuts the important role students have in choosing what they want from their education.

The most important choice made by any student takes place before they even attend a university class: when a student decides what they want to do with their post-secondary schooling. Where Edmontonians want to pursue their studies can often depend on the program they're entering and the strengths already present in different institutions.

The new plan for Alberta education doesn't see the point in the same programs being offered between two nearby schools. The train of thought for this is it's just not necessary to offer the same program in two nearby schools, with provincial money then going to a more collaborative effort to help more than one school.

But this policy hurts post-secondary accessibility as fewer students will be able to qualify for these programs and pursue the field of study they want, with tougher competition and fewer programs available. It also hurts the quality of education. For instance, if the University of Calgary was to lose one of its MBA programs, the U of A would face even larger class sizes to account for the higher demand for the program, leading to a less effective education with professors unable to connect with their students, creating impersonal classrooms.

The new outlook for Alberta's post-secondary education system laid out by Alberta's Deputy Premier, Thomas Lukaszuk, involved universities promoting closer co-operation between schools by eliminating duplication of programs and enforcing curriculum alignment. The idea is to make it easier for students to transfer to different schools while still being able to take all the university credits they've already paid for and earned. This is an issue that needs to be addressed within Albertan universities — students should be able to transfer the credits they worked and paid for to their new school when those transfers are necessary.

But the way Lukaszuk has laid out the solution to this issue over corrects it. Instead of the difference between institutions being considered so great that schools can't accept credits from similar programs, a homogeneous curriculum for education or engineering programs throughout the province would produce a new set of problems. If each student in the province is getting the same education, with the same experiences, they're more likely to produce a group of graduates each year who are too homogeneous in their strengths and flaws, potentially hindering the creative development of students in different programs.

The same curricula offered to students gives schools and individual professors less room to teach the curriculum they think is most valuable to their students. It then becomes less likely professors can inspire their students to find innovative research ideas to set their school's program apart from other institutions in the province, producing identical levels of education in each program rather than Albertan school searching for new ideas to strive for excellence. With an even playing field being created in the education being taught to students throughout Albertan universities, graduate students are less likely to come up with bolder, more original research ideas when they're immersed in identical educational backgrounds.

With funding cuts threatening the U of A's ability to maintain high standards for their programs, the province capping tuition and issuing new mandates for post-secondary education, the U of A is facing an uncertain future. With the promised new co-operative mandate for schools across the province, it seems like Albertan schools could take an even bigger hit, as the savings of provincial funds today hurts the quality of the education for the people who could run the province in the future.

**Andrew Jeffrey**  
SPORTS EDITOR



## WHAT THE BLACK SMOKE FROM THE VATICAN REALLY MEANS

ANTHONY GOERTZ

## letters to the editor

### FROM THE WEB

### U of A's cuts harm U of A reputation

(Re: "Job losses, program cuts likely with 7.2 per cent U of A funding reduction," by Alex Migdal, March 8.)

If U of A is serious about becoming a world class research institution, and if "excellence" is the desired mandate to guide this institution, it is unclear how raising graduate tuition offers a viable longterm solution to our complex financial problems. U of A grad students already bear the burden of previous cuts. To "work with the government," as the President says, in order to remove the provincial cap and raise graduate tuition would have a detrimental impact on much more than just recruiting the best future students in the world to cold northern Alberta.

An increased number of graduate students already work for the university teaching classes, labs, studios, and tutorials as primary instructors at low GTA wages that have not increased, and which remain a fraction of the cost of tenured instructors. Due to previous cuts, the university now increasingly relies on cheap graduate labour, while class sizes, on the other hand, have dramatically increased, as well as the sharp increase in international student admission, both of which already take graduate students away from their research, with no increased financial rewards.

Raising tuition would have have repercussions directly affecting the quality of education for undergraduate students, growing number of

international students, and ultimately U of A's reputation across the board. Such a move seems shortsighted with detrimental long term repercussions.

**Anonymous**  
VIA WEB

### SU election candidates face many barriers

(Re: "Bite the Ballot: Election overhaul necessary for increasing candidate choice," by Ryan Bromsgrove, Feb 26.)

The SU and *The Gateway* suffer from a tendency to view their own short experience at the U of A as indicative of long term trends. Both organizations need to look "long term" — beyond the standard 4 years most students stay at the University.

I was around in Mike Hudema's day. The SU suffered from the same problems back then too — including that SU elections were predominantly male dominated, and that the same insiders generally ran the show. Individuals who have run a campaign before or who have sat on council before are often more familiar with the issues than people who come in fresh. It is by no means certain that experience guarantees a win. Outsiders simply need to do their homework and research before launching their bid. I've seen a good number of SU hacks get defeated by well prepared newcomers. I've also seen lazy newcomers get steamrolled because they had no clue what they were talking about.

*The Gateway* bears some responsibility for the lack of quality candidates in how they cover the SU and elections. I've seen years where *The Gateway*, an

organization with a budget and outreach far outstripping any candidate, has turned its election coverage into a coronation of candidates popular among the editors. Articles about the SU and candidates can be (or were in my day) atrociously one sided and poorly researched. To quote the King of Pop: "if you want to make the world a better place/take a look at yourself and then make the change."

The author also talks about the dominance of the fraternity system and Lister Hall. Both are recent occurrences. When I was active in the SU, a minority of council and executives were members of the Greek system. Lister's ties to the SU only date back to the last few years to the presidencies of Blatz, Janz, and Morin. Neither of these organizations have had a historical stranglehold on executive positions.

If a Listerite or Greek has any advantage in running a campaign, it is this: An active member of either group will have a close network of involved friends. These are the people who run campaigns and tell their friends to go vote. SU elections, whether they occur in 2013, 2003, or 1903 have always been about who can meet the most people in a short period of time. In the end, people vote for who they know. A member of any involved group (Safewalk, Orientation, *The Gateway*, or the ESS for example) would have the same advantage. All it takes is a small, highly dedicated group of students determined to put the work in. That's how Hudema did it, and it's not a secret.

PLEASE SEE LETTERS • PAGE 13



# Alberta is failing students with the elimination of STEP program

## Ending the student employment program doesn't help anything in the long-term



**Jonathan  
Faerber**  
OPINION STAFF

But unfortunately, the unexpected loss in funding has already cost Alberta thousands of jobs that both students and employers were counting on this summer. The consequences of this short-sighted decision will be far-reaching. To begin with, the lack of funding is a fatal blow to the summer employment plans for 2,400 non-profit organizations, small businesses

What's most shocking about the decision is that cutting the entire program "saves" Alberta only \$7 million. Creating a few thousand-plus jobs for students who will eventually become skilled labourers at that cost makes for incredible returns on a minimal investment. The decision to suspend the program for the sake of such a

From this perspective, post-secondary cuts are entirely expected as well. The province has chosen a future of debt, and students' individual fates lie in the red as well. They're not being given a fair chance to contribute to Alberta's economy.

# the burlap sack

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot 100 = 50, \quad \frac{1}{4} \cdot 100 = 25$$

I need to address the monster that did this once again. What the hell is wrong with you? Why did you do this a second time? Do you get off on leaving biological waste in places that it doesn't belong? As much as I despise you, I kind of want to meet you just so I can see what the face of a twisted freak looks like. It's clear you need some kind of help, or just a good old-fashioned ass kicking. I'm going to choose the latter, and I'd be happy to administer it.

Enough is enough. One time was too many. Action needs to be taken and it has to be swift and tough. That's why I'm planning to camp out on the fourth floor of SUB until I catch this excreting evildoer. I don't care how long it takes me. I'm going to camp out up there and every time someone finishes using the bathroom, I'm going to run in there and see if there's another log delicately placed in the paper towel dispenser. Hopefully I can catch this person and put an end to this shitty situation. Maybe that sounds a little weird, but it's not quite as weird as what this asshole has been up to.

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered. Although the fact that I'm writing about this for a second time probably warrants a sack beating for whoever did this heinous crime. I mean, come on. What kind of statement were you trying to make here? Was this some sort of comment on society? Grow up.

**CA**

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# Mandatory SU membership is a blatant violation of student rights



**Brian Collins**  
CUP — THE ARGUS

The mandatory nature of student unionism in Ontario is in direct violation of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Specifically, the fact that we as students are forced to be a member of the student unions violates our right to free association. This also violates the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states, “No one may be compelled to belong to an association.”

It’s hard to believe that a fundamental human right is denied to students in Ontario by a provincial law that forces all post-secondary students to belong to a student union, and to make union fees compulsory.

Student unions should be voluntary. There are a few arguments against this, such as: student unions are a kind of government, student unions represent the issues of all students and students who do not join the union benefit from action of those who do. All of these arguments are false and misleading. The vocal proponents of mandatory student unionism argue that student unions are a form of government. This is simply not true, as the definition of a government is a “political authority that can legislate and enforce laws to protect the civil rights of individuals.”

Student unions obviously fit into the definition of a union, as they

exist to represent a specific group of individuals to secure their particular interests. This is even specifically admitted to by the Canadian Federation of Students on their website: “we organize students on a democratic, co-operative basis in advancing our own interests.”

The problem is clear when one looks at the varying interests of students. The union institutes fees and has political events and views that not all students agree with, yet they can claim they have the support of their members. My personal gripe is that the union has always advocated for tuition to be free. This view is far from universally supported. Free tuition will predominantly benefit students coming from wealthy and upper middle-class families, compared to the progressive system in place today that has tuition subsidies for low income students. This is strange, as the student union claims to be progressive, but this policy is clearly regressive in nature.

Students have a large number of varying opinions on this and other issues and what the solutions are, but since we are forced into the union, we only have one voice.

The largest argument for mandatory student unions is that they provide a public service — that students that do not join benefit from the actions of those who do. This is known as the free rider problem, and has been accepted as an argument for compulsory employment union membership. But student unions are not employment unions, and this free rider problem simply does not exist. All services provided by the student union are easily

excludable to those who don’t join by use of ID cards and a voluntary union could still provide all of the services provided by the mandatory one.

The free rider argument doesn’t hold when we look at services. The second portion of this argument deals with bargaining between the student union and the university. Again, this doesn’t hold true because there is no true bargaining by the union. Rallies hosted by the union are simply political rallies for the interests of select students. The right not to associate with certain groups is violated in this case as not all students support the political views of the minority. This issue has also been investigated by the public think-tank, Frontier Centre for Public Policy, which came to this conclusion in their study, “*The Case for Voluntary Student Unionism*,” as posted on their website:

“To ensure that student unions remain legitimate, effective and accountable, membership should become voluntary. Not only would it amount to restoring a fundamental human right, it would dramatically decrease operating budgets and compel student union officials to allocate resources according to what a majority of assertive students are willing to pay for, as opposed to what a minority assume a majority of passive students might want in return for their compulsory fees..”

The student union can never do its job when students are forced to join. The Ontario government should act swiftly to restore the right of free association to students.

At least give us a way to opt out.

LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Mandatory outreach is a good idea — not just for executives, but for council too. Executives are relatively easy to get a hold of. Council is a much stronger body, yet getting elected to it is an absolute joke compared to the rigour executives are put through. Once elected, councillors generally just disappear until the next election. Going back to the responsibility that *The Gateway* bears, maybe this paper should put council candidates through the same ringer it subjects executives to.

The largest barrier to an executive position is the campaign. The most successful candidates are the ones who started planning the moment the previous election finished. Candidates are expected to be proficient in webpage and graphic design and video editing. Failure to design a sufficiently aesthetically pleasing poster results in ridicule in *The Gateway’s* “Poster Slam”. A campaign college early in the new year, teaching potential candidates the ins and outs of campaigning could lower the learning curve to potential candidates.

The author ends by advocating the elimination of some of the election rules. Let’s get some things straight first: Michelle Kelly was not disqualified because she overspent her budget. Michelle was disqualified for overspending on the last day of the campaign. CROs usually have a wide range of punishments available to them during the campaign. Michelle forced the CROs hand, and was disqualified because she broke a rule she was well aware of.

With respect to the pre-campaigning rules being removed entirely, what would the impact be? If I came from a wealthy family, could I plaster campus with posters for 6 months of the year, with my budget

only kicking in during the official campaign period? Will candidates be forced through competition to litter campus with posters for a month? How will the Profs feel about having their classes interrupted by proto-hacks for the better part of the winter term? What will that do to candidates who already skip all classes during campaigning and suffer academically because of it?

The SU absolutely needs to improve outreach and engagement, although improving the quality of candidates isn’t as simple as Mr. Bromsgrove suggests. As EiC of *The Gateway* he is, however, one of the few people on campus who can do something about it, who can study the reasons students do and don’t decide to run.

**“Hack Emeritus”**  
VIA WEB

## Don’t you dare slander McDonald’s coffee

(Re: “*Bite the Ballot: Election overhaul necessary for increasing candidate choice*,” by Ryan Bromsgrove, Feb 26.)

Interesting article, Ryan, but McDonald’s coffee is definitely above par

**Alexander Delorme**  
VIA WEB

Letters to the editor should be sent to [letters@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:letters@gateway.ualberta.ca) (no attachments, please).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words.

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## Offensive protest not hate speech



**Collin Horn**  
OPINION WRITER

Canada prides itself on both freedom and equality. However, these virtues often find themselves in opposition when people want to express unpopular views. Although any targeting of an identifiable group is condemned by article 319 of the Canadian criminal code, the anti-abortion display set up by Bill Whatcott last Friday was within the bounds of the law and as such must be tolerated.

Whatcott is a social conservative activist with tactics reminiscent of the Westboro Baptist Church. He gained infamy aggressively protesting against gay marriage and abortion clinics with picketing and distributing often graphic pamphlets. His appearance at the U of A campus on Friday afternoon put a strain on our attempt to allow the free exchange of ideas and the attempt to make the university an inclusive institution.

Whatcott's posters were distasteful — one featuring a large image of an aborted fetus — but when we're not talking hate speech, it's a bad idea to prohibit even distasteful protests. University students frequently advocate for causes outside cultural norms — the general population does not discuss gender continuums or Marxist interpretations, but everyone wants free speech for their causes. Our own moral standards demand that we proceed with the same spirit of tolerance in all cases



APPLIED

of free speech. Rather than attempt to remove such protests on shaky legal grounds, the better thing to do is encourage people to settle disagreement through debate.

That was the spirit in which small groups of students engaged with Whatcott's protest. Some acquaintances and I fundraised for the Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research opposite Whatcott's campaign and others appeared with the LGBTQ rainbow flag. There was minimal hostility between the groups involved, and it even progressed to a spirited but civil debate at a coffee shop after the protests packed up. Democracy is not magical — no one was convinced one way or another over this small amount of time. However, both camps ended the day by having a meaningful conversation that served to humanize people on both sides of the issue.

Prohibiting Whatcott from having his hour and a half protest wouldn't have been effective. In fact, Carleton University attempted such a ban in 2011, albeit when he was

distributing fliers on the issue of gay marriage. However, this likely contributed to the support he received during his Supreme Court case the same year. When a record number of people appeared for both the defence and prosecution. Banning hate speech takes the issue from the realm of ideas, where fundamentalism can be combated effectively. It is often our knee jerk reaction that when someone says something distasteful, they must be stopped from doing so. But this silencing is counterproductive. Whatcott's display was disturbing and aggressive. Showing the disgusting images repels people and isolates Whatcott and his message.

As long as a protest avoids inciting hatred against an identifiable group, it does not violate the Canadian criminal code. Whatcott's intolerance is a small flame, if people try to keep it down and buried they give it shelter and fuel to grow. But, if we allow it to stand in the free market of ideas, it will be snuffed out by its own repulsiveness.

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Old denim shirted man in HUB:  
I want to know your story.  
One day we will chat.

---

CURSE YOU, BIVALVIA GILL  
TYPES!  
glutei maximi  
I've started liking you from way  
back when,  
But was too shy since then,  
So let me take you on a date,  
'Cause your name is [...]

---

Butts  
At Ho's Ho's: Thanks bro! Orange  
chicken, Yum Yum  
Engineering is like four years of  
hazing.  
I enjoy the posters in business  
library telling people to stop talk-  
ing... Too bad they don't work at all.  
Whitney, engineering dream girl. I  
want to count your freckles.  
the couple making out in 3rd floor  
cab make me realize how much i  
need a date!  
ive been watching tv for 3 hours  
straight. damn it!  
My dad discovered you don't need to  
be a student at U of A to post in 3LF.  
My apologies to the study body.  
The SU Election is a farce. The state  
of SU politics is depressing.  
Is it just me, or are Chelen and Kelly  
the only candidates who seem like  
they aren't just playing at politics  
- but actually have a workmanlike  
approach to the jobs they're run-  
ning for?  
Remember: one man's procrast-  
turbation is another man's study  
break.

---

I hate you, A.  
Dicks

S.U. Election  
Former high school presidents  
Pad their resumes  
If not the SUB couches, where am I gonna get my dick wet? I can't take her back to my parent's place.  
In 5 years at the UofA, nothing has made me more angry than Anthony Goertz wasting university time and resources by pretending to run for SU Exec. Hypocrite.  
Griffin, no matter how late for class you are you never fail to walk with a style of intense purpose  
Shiiiiiiiiiieeeeeeeetttt  
Boyfriend for hire: I dig!  
Ho's-Ho's: Rice and Orange Chicken; gotcha! Thank you guys!  
Oh God, I feel like I am doing nothing with my life; nothing I said.  
You're all I ever wanted. You're all I ever needed. So tell me what to do now, when I motherfucking want you back.  
Hey Pollock, I wanna bone.  
That'll do pig.  
Lau for life? That sounds like a really big commitment...  
Couldn't I just get the 3-Month Trial Version of Lau?  
About to write test.  
I should be studying now.  
Help me I am doomed.  
Dear mister cuddles:  
You are not intelligent,  
Count those syllables.  
With election results like this, I have lost ALL faith in our student body. Really? REALLY?  
On the SU Exec Elections: I CALL SHENANIGANS!  
Bastard

I left my message but did he fuck get back to me

---

Leggings are NOT PANTS.

---

I think people that always read books about Nazi Germany are pretty creepy.

---

You need a hug and maybe a lobotomy

---

My girlfriend's bedroom has mirrors on the ceiling. She told me to come over and bring a bottle. I brought Windex

---

So let me get this straight. Highest voter turnout was from a faculty not even in Edmonton? Shame, North Campus.

---

She wants the D like a kid with an F.

---

Gary is a bitch

---

Not a Pokemon trainer

---

Pussy researcher

---

Campus bites bites.

---

Attn late night studiers - stop fucking talking in the fucking Alumni Room! And sleep elsewhere, creeps.

---

You and I have much in common, except that I am good looking, popular and do not smell like a urinal in Calcutta.

---

I am a lonely boy. I need some tenderness.

---

I saw you across the room miss L, Your anime drawings really turned me on. Do you swing my way? Miss N

---

*The Gateway reserves the right to refuse publication of any 3LF it deems racist, sexist, homophobic, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. Keep it clean and above the belt here, guys.*

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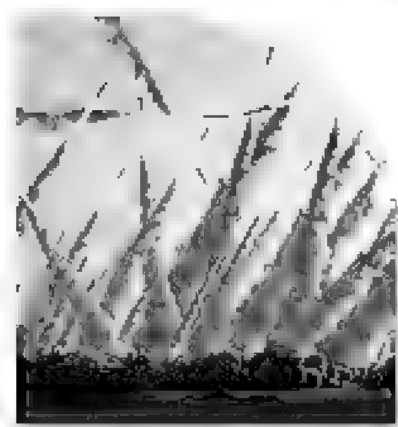
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# Ways the cash-strapped U of A can make some major dough



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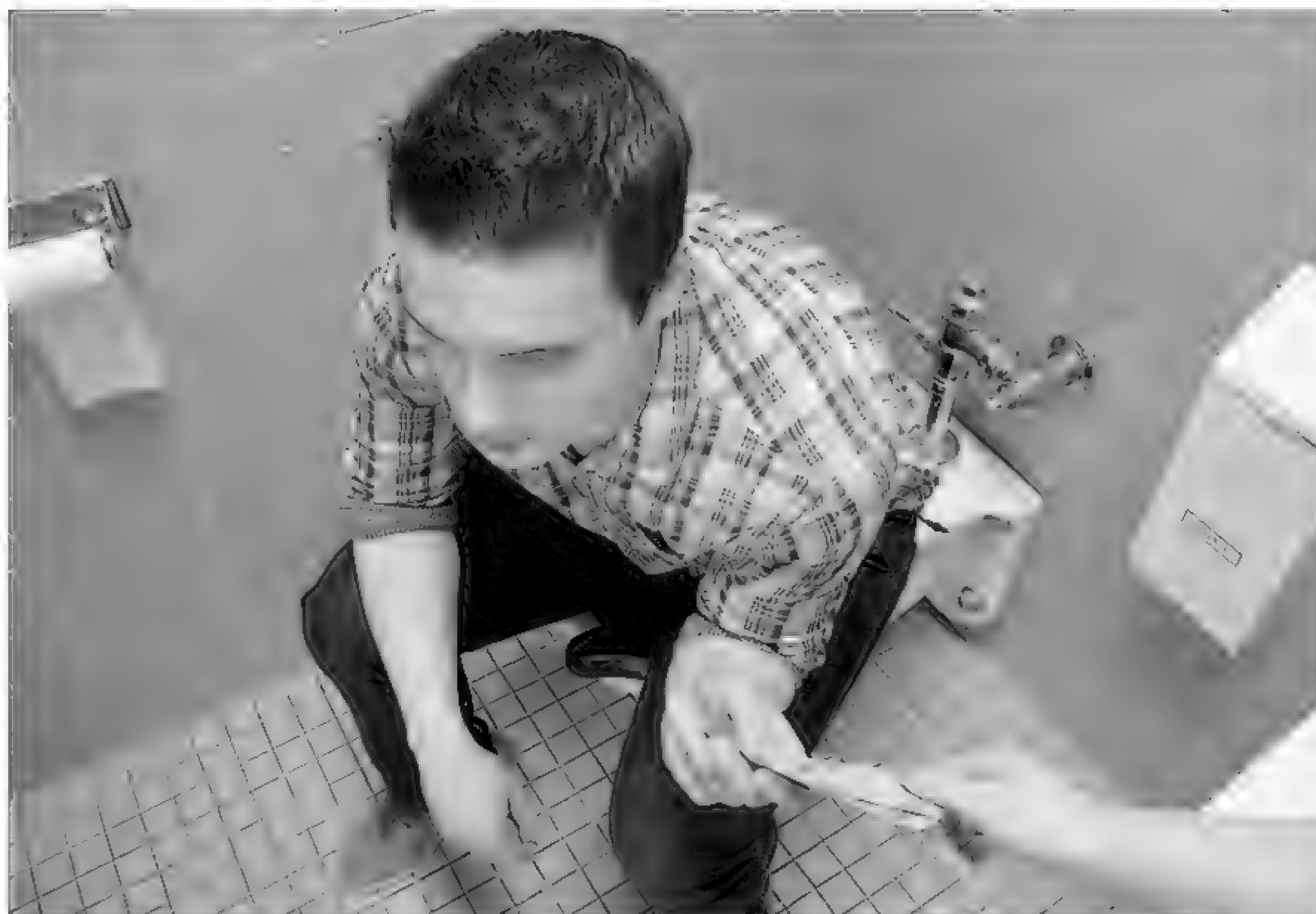
The provincial budget came out last week and post-secondary institutions are screwed. Since *The Gateway* wants to help out any way we can, we thought up few ways the U of A could make some cuts and save some cash.

### Ryan Bromsgrove

Sell the naming rights to the university. We could do it on a yearly basis, and after some face time with top multinational brands we'll have a synergistic upflow in our net cash revenue streams. Going forward, it's all about initiating a paradigm shift to widen the bandwidth on our business-to-consumer relations while taking into account the core competency of, you know, eyeballs on the next generation return on investments.

Big picture time, people. "The University of Alberta: Brought to you by Coca-Cola."

If I had to guesstimate a ballpark figure here, I'd say with some digital signage on our bricks-and-mortar, this one's pretty much a showstopper. Better, get some thought leaders to cover all directions of the compass and lend us some positive momentum — then touch base with the consumers and give them a seat at the table and before you can say "pushing the envelope" they've drank the Kool Aid and the impact of our bizmeths will have them onboard. Just remember the



**I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS SHIT** Paying to use the bathroom on campus could bring in much needed revenue. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: GRIFF CORNWALL

exit strategy: downsize, offshore and ride that golden parachute.

### Selena Phillips-Boyle

When it comes to saving money, the U of A could save some serious cash by charging for one of the most basic human functions: using the toilet. With nearly 40,000 students on campus, the costs add up. If every student walking around on campus uses the toilet just once per day, that's over 64,000 litres of water and 480,000 pieces of toilet paper every day. Students are flushing our tax dollars and tuition money down the toilet.

Besides, there are lots of other places around the world that have pay toilets. If they can do it all over Europe, we can start doing it right here in Edmonton too. If students can afford to spend \$5 for a beer at RATT, they can certainly afford to pay \$2 to empty their bladders. If you can't find a toonie in your pocket, you'll just have to hold it through the last lecture before heading home for the day. It's too bad if you can't afford it.

With all the extra cash the university will suddenly have, maybe they can finally afford some decent two-ply toilet paper. The students deserve soft bottoms.

### Alana Willerton

Each year when the U of A holds their Students' Union executive elections, students hear the same words from candidates over and over: sustainability, communication, social media. And while the repetition of these words that don't really mean anything is tiresome at best, the university could easily turn this annoyance into a money-making gold mine.

Come election season, all the university would have to do is equip each SU savvy student with a coin box, and whenever they hear an electoral candidate utter one of

these clichéd terms, the candidate in question would be forced to pay a dollar. At the end of elections season, students could turn their coin boxes in to the university in the hopes of saving the school from ruin. If this year's elections are any indication, the university would be rolling in the dough in no time. And if it doesn't get the university the funds it so desperately need, maybe it will at least convince the candidates to add some creativity to their platforms. Either way, we can't lose.

### Darcy Ropchan

One of the best ways the university can save a little cash is by using cheap child labour.

I'm not talking about having children teach classes or anything like that — although in the past I've had some instructors who seemed to have the same intelligence and emotional capabilities as children. Instead, we need children to do the grunt work that keeps the University of Alberta running.

Some shingles on the roof need repairing? Send a few kids up there to get the job done. It's laying shingles — it can't be that hard. If there's a major chemical spill in one of the labs, just send three or four children in there with some mops and rubber masks and let them clean it up. Kids need to learn the value of doing hard work, and anyway it's just a chemical spill — it's not that big of a deal.

Little kids aren't that smart and many of them aren't that good at math yet so the University administration can definitely short change them to boot. They'll never know the difference.

fall 2013/winter 2014 registration

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## FALL 2013/WINTER 2014 REGISTRATION INFORMATION



# LE TOUR DE CAMPUS BARS

by Madeline Smith, Jennifer Polack and Griffin Cornwall  
photos by Griffin Cornwall, Harry Du and Selena Phillips-Boyle

## THE NAIT NEST

(NAIT Main Campus, Room S110, 11762 106 St.)



## GRANT MACEWAN TOWERS

(10700 104 Ave.)



## U OF A ROOM AT THE TOP

7th Floor, SUB





**S**t. Patrick's Day is coming up, and that only means one thing: university students across the country are gearing up to hit their campus bars in droves with the singular goal of getting totally smashed.

And with three major post-secondary institutions in Edmonton,

if any students in this city are hoping to expand their green beer-guzzling horizons, there are plenty of options beyond their campus home base. While just about everyone at the U of A probably visits RATT or Dewey's at some point in their student life, there's a whole world of beer-soaked university

floors to explore.

In pursuit of discovering which campus bar reigns supreme over the others, *The Gateway's* Jennifer Polack, Madeline Smith and Griffin Cornwall teamed up with staff members from the *NAIT Nugget* and the Grant MacEwan *Griff* on a guided tour of each other's local

watering holes.

Our journey started in north Edmonton at NAIT and moved south to finish off across the river at the U of A. It was a long night of investigative partying, and there were more than a few surprises and new discoveries along the way.

Owned by the NAIT Students' Association, the NEST Taphouse Grill serves a campus population of about 30,000 students, the majority of whom are in part-time or continuing education programs. NAIT is largely a technical college with professional programs, and the Nest has a rowdy sports bar atmosphere. The bar was fully renovated in 2012, and it also has daily soup and drink specials.

**Hours:** 9 a.m. – 9 p.m., closed Saturday and Sunday  
**Beers on tap:** Budweiser, Kokanee and Bud Light — \$5.75 for a pint, \$15 for a jug  
**Most expensive menu item:** Three-way tie between Charbroiled Sirloin Steak, Pork Tenderloin Medallions and Nest Notorious Nacho Grande — all \$14.95  
**Least expensive menu item:** Creamy Smashed Potatoes and Gravy — \$3.95

Just getting to the Nest was a heroic effort. There isn't much parking available around the campus, and because the area around the school is under construction for the upcoming LRT station, the outside of the campus is a maze of concrete barriers and dirt. On a warm day of melting, we trudged through slush, puddles and slippery patches of mud for a good 15 minutes before we finally made it to our elusive destination.

**2:56 p.m.** - Arrive at The Nest. It's very obvious we've left the U of A's hipster haven. "I feel like I'm surrounded by bros," Madeline says.  
**3 p.m.** - Realize this bar actually looks pretty nice. Not only are there leather seats, but a fancy circular bar, cool artwork and high-end TVs throughout.  
**3:04 p.m.** - Beer arrives pretty quickly after the server takes orders. There's a pretty good beer list, but the limited number of beers on tap is disappointing. Griff opts for something fancy while Jen goes for a classic tap brew.  
**3:05 p.m.** - Jen checks out the bathrooms. "They're like the illegitimate love child of Earl's washrooms and a dive bar," she says.  
**3:09 p.m.** - Realize that the only females in the bar are servers.  
**3:17 p.m.** - Our Grant Mac cohorts arrive, and they're shocked. "This actually looks like a real bar!"  
**3:27 p.m.** - Delve into the bright orange menu. Unlike what you might expect from a campus bar, the menu is pretty impressive and well-designed rather than just a single laminated page. We're intrigued by the Cajun Corn Fried Oysters, listed for \$7.95  
**3:28 p.m.** - Note that although the Nest's steak is one of their more expensive items, it's still two dollars less than RATT's.

**3:30 p.m.** - We get in trouble for trying to take photos in the bar due to some vague "privacy policy." Maybe this place really is fancier than we initially thought.  
**3:32 p.m.** - Jen orders the Cajun Corn Fried Oyster Po Boy for \$12.95  
**3:34 p.m.** - We take a moment to take in the atmosphere. It's incredibly busy and a little dark and dungeon-y. But on the bright side, it's obviously been renovated recently, and the changes are stellar. The fact that you may feel like the only set of ovaries in a three-kilometre radius is only a minor annoyance.  
**3:55 p.m.** - The table of dudes next to us starts screaming for no reason.  
**4 p.m.** - The food finally arrives. While Jen's Cajun Corn Fried Oyster Po Boy sounded promising, it's essentially a batter sandwich with some veggies. Luckily, the fries are good — evenly salted, not too soggy, and not too crisp.  
**4:21 p.m.** - One of the waitresses drops a glass and the whole bar bursts into applause.  
**4:25 p.m.** - One of the guys at the table that screamed earlier starts harassing one of the three non-server girls in the bar and gets shut down hard.  
**4:29 p.m.** - Our server completely forgets if we ordered drinks despite the fact that they're on the table in plain sight.

**4:31 p.m.** - Our attempts to find the server and pay for our meals stall as the server disappears into the crazy busy bar.  
**4:33 p.m.** - We finally succeed in paying for our food, and we head for the door.  
**4:36 p.m.** - Spend the next 20 minutes attempting to navigate our way back through all the construction in front of NAIT. We step in something that looks, but does not smell, like mud.  
**4:37 p.m.** - Stinky mud seeps into Jen's sock through a hole in her boot.

**VERDICT:** The Nest has a bit of a dude-bro atmosphere, but it looks great — it's definitely a campus bar with some extra polish. While the menu looked promising with some genuinely creative options, we were a bit disappointed with what we ordered. On the other hand, we may have just made a choice that was a little too risky. The Nest's fries, however, a campus pub staple food, were satisfying. Service was a little lacklustre and tended to be slow, but we can give our waitress the benefit of the doubt and chalk it up to the intensely busy atmosphere. There weren't many servers working, and they were all run off their feet. A major deterrent for getting in to the Nest is obviously the lack of accessibility, but once the LRT is built, this campus pub might actually be worth the trip to the north side.

**Hours:** 11 a.m. – 8 p.m., closed Saturday and Sunday  
**Beers on tap:** Keith's, Kokanee, Shock Top, Canadian and Rickard's Red  
**Most expensive menu item:** Tie between Towers Chicken Burger and Chicken Chop Salad — \$11.75  
**Least expensive menu item:** Soup of the Day — \$5.25

Located centrally on MacEwan's downtown campus, there's far more accessible parking and walkways on the way to Towers than the Nest. But once we were in, we were confused — is this really where the campus bar is? For the U of A students, it looked more like CAB Café than a place that served alcohol.

**4:57 p.m.** - Arrive at Towers. Try to figure out where the cafeteria ends and the bar begins. Fail miserably.  
**5 p.m.** - Ask about ordering food, and discover the kitchen is already closed — at 5 p.m. on a Friday afternoon.

**5:07 p.m.** - Nicole, the Editor-in-Chief from the *NAIT Nugget*, receives a creeper note with a phone number on her way back from the bathroom.  
**5:08 p.m.** - Since there's nothing else entertaining going on at Towers, everyone at the table conspires to text horse porn to the creeper — we have to make our own fun here.  
**5:09 p.m.** - Wonder if a server is ever going to appear to take our drink orders.  
**5:10 p.m.** - Realize that Towers does not have servers. Cry deeply.  
**5:10 p.m.** - Try to build the resolve to actually go get our own beverages from the bar. Realize we're not plebes — if we're going to pay \$5.75 for a beer, it needs to be poured and set down in front of us by someone attractive.  
**5:17 p.m.** - A game of quarters ensues — remember, here you have to make your own fun.  
**5:18 p.m.** - Once again attempt to define the line separating cafeteria and bar. Fail even worse than before.

**5:20 p.m.** - Stare at the small stage in the bar, which looks like it would be ideal for a DJ or rock band to entertain patrons. Wonder why it's completely deserted on a Friday evening.  
**5:21 p.m.** - Table sinks into an awkward silence. Everyone pulls out their phones and pretends they don't know each other.  
**5:25 p.m.** - Random guy at the table beside us starts rapping awkwardly in the silence. Everyone glares at him with a mixture of admiration and horror. Bad beatboxing tapers off to a soft spitting sound.  
**5:31 p.m.** - Come to the realization that this place has nothing going for it. We require something deep-fried to munch on — a campus bar should at least be able to provide that much.  
**5:47 p.m.** - Reach a breaking point because Towers doesn't serve food. Flip the table in rage and storm out, because the only fun that can be had at Towers is fun you create yourself. By flipping tables.  
**5:48 p.m.** - Take one final glance around

the elementary lunchroom-style tables and tiny bar with barely a single soul in the whole place, and feel profoundly underwhelmed.  
**5:48 p.m.** - Leave Towers for good.

**VERDICT:** Towers left us underwhelmed, disappointed and above all, *hungry*. While the pub's menu looks decent enough, it's pretty disappointing that they close their kitchen at 5 p.m. when the bar itself is still open for another three hours. But that might be an indication of what Towers is supposed to be: this isn't really a nighttime entertainment bar. This is a place to go in the middle of the day so you can grab a lunch beer to sip while you check out your readings for your 3 p.m. class. The whole thing looks like a lunchroom, and that's because it basically is. Lower your expectations if you're hoping for an exciting night out at Towers — on a Friday evening, campus was already cleared out, the bar was dead and let's remind everyone one more time: they weren't serving food.

**Hours:** 11 a.m. – 11 p.m. weekdays, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Saturdays, closed Sundays  
**Beers on tap:** Wicked Panda, Aprikat, Yellowhead, Grasshopper and more — \$5.75 for most pints, \$17.25 for most pitchers  
**Most expensive menu item:** A tie between the No. 12 Burger and the Fish and Chips — \$12  
**Least expensive menu item:** Veggie Plate — \$6

**6:10 p.m.** - Some of our MacEwan and NAIT friends arrive at the U of A before we do and attempt to go to RATT — only to be stopped by the bouncer demanding to see OneCards they don't have.  
**6:15 p.m.** - We arrive in SUB and puzzle over why RATT is suddenly deciding to check OneCards, today of all days. Contemplate if we'll even be able to get

our whole crew in.  
**6:20 p.m.** - Bring everyone up to RATT and manage to convince the bouncer to let everyone in with three OneCard-holding students.  
**6:22 p.m.** - Having accumulated a few more people at Towers in their desperation to leave MacEwan's subpar pub, we seek out a table that will fit our group of about 10.  
**6:24 p.m.** - Come to the realization that this is impossible. It's Friday evening and RATT is bumpin'. There's a single free table with three lonely chairs, but it's not nearly enough room for everyone.  
**6:26 p.m.** - Our Grant Mac friends marvel at the panoramic view out RATT's windows and the comparably classy atmosphere from Towers.  
**6:28 p.m.** - After some deliberation, we give up. We're ready and willing to put RATT's beer and food to the test, but there's just no

space to settle in.  
**6:30 p.m.** - Leave RATT and squeeze back into the elevators to go back down to the main floor of SUB.  
**6:33 p.m.** - Do what you always do when RATT isn't an option: head to Champ's across from Lister.  
**6:37 p.m.** - On the way to Champ's, we jaywalk across the street and a Grant Mac cohort sprains her ankle.  
**6:38 p.m.** - Partying is derailed as we try to figure out if our injured companion is out of commission or can rally to make it to another bar.  
**6:45 p.m.** - We triumphantly make it to Champ's and settle in to the ample space provided — it might be Friday night, but in the absence of Lister kids, the bar is gloriously dead, as usual. For a while.

**VERDICT:** RATT is the only campus bar with the bizarre elitism of only allowing

students with OneCards up to its hallowed halls. While this can be sidestepped by bringing up a bonafide U of A student with a OneCard to accompany your non-student self, it seems like a bit of an unnecessary barrier.  
Due to the fact that it actually has servers and the kitchen is open well into the evening, RATT proves itself to be head-and-shoulders above MacEwan's Towers. It also has far more of a "real bar" atmosphere, making it more classy and inviting than Towers. While we didn't get the opportunity to put the service or food quality to the test on this particular night, neither of the other bars blew us out of the water in either of these areas. RATT doesn't have the renovated sports bar polish of the Nest, but in the absence of trudging through blocks of muck and construction, the main U of A pub doesn't actually seem half-bad.



# The Daily Grind

written by Ryan Stephens, Kate Black and Micheline Pagliuso

photos by AmirAli Sharifi



While good coffee is at the core of any café, it takes much more to become a fixture in Edmonton's café culture. As independent coffee shops sprout up around the city, maintaining a viable business in an increasingly competitive market requires a degree of creativity.

Whether it's by offering an array of food, comfortable seating or a relaxed and inviting atmosphere, the essence of a successful gourmet coffee business lies in the café's willingness to go the extra mile. As cafés lean further away from the profitable business models of Starbucks-style mass market coffee chains, they're replacing commercial expectations with notions of family and community, emphasizing a more reciprocal, personal relationship with consumers.

The challenges of this business approach shouldn't be understated. As business demands and financial hardships collide with familial duties, the inevitable reality is that not all gourmet coffee shops will succeed. Those that have understand listening to the desires of the community is the first step.

And as with any family, the utmost importance is placed on ensuring all its members are well nourished.

"I think that you need to offer more than coffee now, really," says Jesse Gado, a manager at Leva Cappuccino Bar, a longtime hub of Edmonton's gourmet coffee scene nestled in the Garneau neighborhood. "You definitely need some nice desserts and morning pastries and lunch offerings, and that's the kind of stuff that really helps to stabilize the service business that we run up front."

Leva's added focus on providing a more holistic experience has led to the recent addition of an in-house baker and full-time kitchen staff to keep up with the demand for dining options, while the table service in the evenings brings the café closer to a restaurant feel.

But Leva's not alone in picking up on the importance of offering more than coffee. Most newer cafés in the city focus on offering food and a welcoming energy to keep customers coming back.

Remedy Café owner Sohail "Zee" Zaidi operates locations both on Jasper Ave. and 109 St. He agrees being able to offer customers a variety of options is essential. Remedy's downtown location has taken advantage of the professional crowd looking for a bite to eat during the lunch hour, though being in the city's corporate core comes with an added disadvantage.

"Coffee shops here, nobody wants coffee after 4 p.m., so you have to be a full-service downtown," Zaidi says.

"If you want a sandwich, a coffee, a beer, you can get it all here. You have to give the customer the whole deal here."

Despite the focus on providing food options to customers, Zaidi emphasizes the importance of making people feel comfortable taking their time and enjoying their experience at Remedy. Beyond simply dining, Zaidi wants customers to feel like they can just grab a drink and relax.

"If you get one coffee and sit all day, I'm very happy," he says. "That's the nature of the Remedy. You don't need to get your drink and get out. It's your house. Sit down, chill out."

But despite the growth and diversity of Edmonton's coffee scene, some local mainstays have been forced to close their doors due to slow business and lacklustre profits. The recent announcement that Transcend would be closing their downtown location after less than two years was met with surprise from many Edmontonians, who had come to rely on the location for their regular gourmet caffeine fix. Despite the addition of a small Latin American street food menu and the opening of the Elevation Room, a venue for live music located in their basement, the downtown location proved not to be viable for the company.

Poul Mark, CEO and founder of Transcend Coffee, says the decision to close the location allows them to refocus on training existing staff and wholesaling their product to other businesses, rather than being forced to go beyond their successful focus on coffee.

"We would be pushed further and further out of our comfort zone, and we just decided

that we do coffee really well and that's what we know, and we don't know food. We aren't a restaurant," Mark says.

"We just decided it was time to cut our losses and regroup and try to strengthen the core business of what we do well, and that's coffee."

As with any ambitious business, expansion for Transcend first seemed like a clear way to further their presence in the city. Alternatively, many cafés have fostered this presence by avoiding the risk and embedding themselves in one place — proving that developing the right niche can be just as important as providing quality products.

By offering everything from cappuccinos and espressos to the renowned Maple Bacon Latte, newcomer Roast Coffeehouse + Wine Bar already has coffee down to a tee. Located in Edmonton's newly revitalized warehouse district, the coffee house's products appeal to the workday clientele while catering to the evening crowd, featuring a selection of wine, beer and live entertainment.

Owner Matt Hall's decision to open the business downtown — despite the potential disadvantages — stems from his love of the area and his devotion to giving back to the city's core.

"I'm downtown because I have a passion for downtown and for Edmonton. It would be easier to pop up a location in a more densely populated area... but this is a destination," Hall argues. "When I looked at the business itself, I wanted to be a part of that growth. I wanted to provide something back to the city."

Though Edmonton's downtown has not proved to be a fruitful location for all cafés, Hall asserts his choice of location was a key part of the philosophy underlying Roast as a site of convergence.

"Our location was specific to the way I viewed the coffee house. For our business, we didn't call it a coffee shop or café or anything; it's a coffee house. And that stems from the historical side of it," Hall says. "It's a meeting place. It's a place for the community to get together."

And for many cafés, this broader sense of community is an essential part of their experience. Location often denotes the type of customer base a café will attract, be it the business

crowd of a downtown location or students looking for study space and a WiFi connection near the university.

Jesse Gado says Leva's location in Garneau mainly attracts locals and students, but they've created an inclusive atmosphere that sees devotees making regular drives down to the café, effectively becoming part of Leva's wider community.

"We've always been a very community-oriented place, whether you live in the community or you just want to join our community and hang out," Gado insists.

Meanwhile, Remedy's Zaidi explains that inserting the café's casual and familial vibe into the corporate atmosphere downtown is not always readily welcomed. Such is the case with their tradition of calling out customer names and food orders rather than waiting tables.

"One lady came in and was like, 'Why are you yelling names?'" Zaidi recalls.

"I yell the names, so you can know their names."

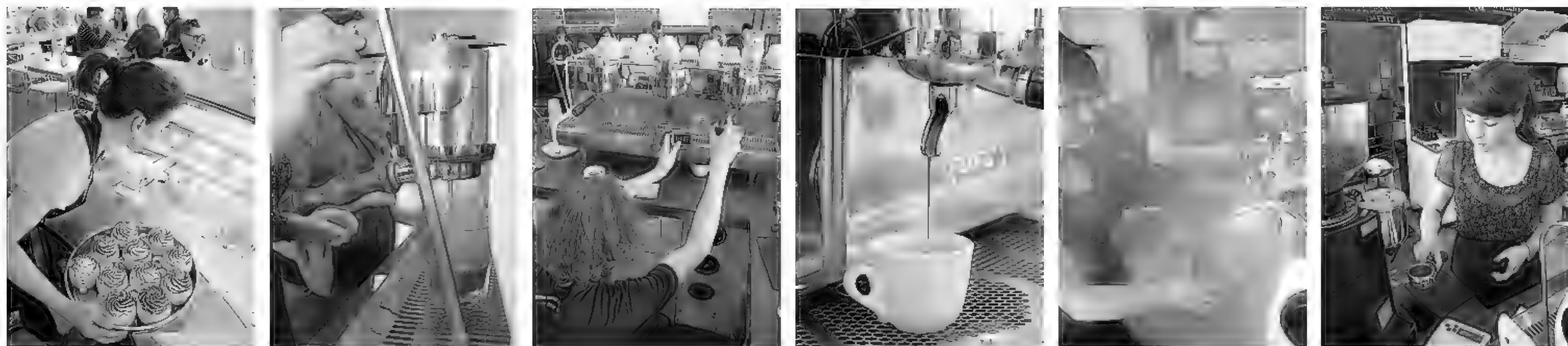
Hall insists Roast's ability to maintain customers lies in its flexibility. Aside from offering two spaces for live music, they provide a free meeting space for larger corporate groups. It's all part of Hall's belief that cultivating community comes from paying special attention to customers.

"It's about how you're connecting to your customers and what you're providing to your customers and how you're flexing to meet their needs," Hall says. "Because if you're inflexible, then at the end of the day you may not be meeting their needs."

Whether it's offering a multitude of menu choices or a devotion to establishing personal connections, it's apparent that cafés have come a long way from simply providing a hot cup of joe. As Hall sees it, one thing is certain: as local coffee houses continue to flourish, the strength of their community is much more important than the strength of the brew.

"We really want the community to make this their place, because that's ultimately what this should be about," he explains.

"Coffee should be in the background."



to see more, go to [thegatewayonline.ca/article/view/edmonton\\_cafes](http://thegatewayonline.ca/article/view/edmonton_cafes)



# Arts & Culture

## Arts & Culture Editor

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### Volunteer

A&amp;C meetings Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB.

## social intercourse

COMPILED BY **Kate Black**

### A Royal Affair

Directed by Nikolai Arcel  
Starring Alicia Vikander, Mikkel Boe Følsgaard and Maads Mikkelsen  
Friday, March 15 - Monday, March 18  
Garneau Theatre (8712 109 St.)  
\$8 student admission

Co-written and directed by the screenwriter of the original *Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*, *A Royal Affair* delivers the same intelligence and depth — just packaged in a different time period. The story takes place in the late 18th century, and captures the romantic affair between German doctor Johann Struensee (Mikkelsen) and the Queen of Denmark, Caroline Mathilde (Alicia Vikander). But their love has a catch: while falling for each other, Johann uses Caroline to reform the conservative principles of her husband, resulting in a captivating period piece that illustrates the conflict between love and political gain.

### When That I Was

Directed by Vanessa Porteus  
Starring Christopher Hunt  
Runs until Sunday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m.,  
matinées at 2 p.m. on March 16, 17, 23 and 24  
Varscona Theatre (10329 83 Ave.)  
Starting at \$16 at tixonthesquare.ca

Shadow Theatre is taking on Shakespeare, but don't expect to see *Hamlet*, *Romeo and Juliet* or *The Tempest* this time around. In fact, this isn't a work of Shakespeare at all. *When That I Was* takes us back to a time after Shakespeare has just died, and the audience finds the iconic Globe Theatre has been burned down, leaving some of the actors homeless. The play introduces us to Globe player Jack Rice, as he reminisces on the times of Shakespeare and his journey through theatre. In a historically accurate one-man show where Hunt portrays more than 27 characters, *When That I Was* is a treat for all English and history buffs.

### Billy Elliot: The Musical

Tuesday, March 19 at 8 p.m.  
Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium  
(11455 87 Ave.)  
Starting at \$45 at ticketmaster.ca

In developing a commentary on the stereotypes of class and gender, the story of Billy Elliot has remained dear to the hearts of film and theatre fanatics alike. The story follows the plight of the young Billy Elliot, who is growing up in a blue-collar neighbourhood while pursuing his dreams to dance at the prestigious Royal Ballet School. While the musical brings the Academy Award-nominated film to life on stage, it does so while staying true to the typically jovial, happily-ever-after musicals. Be prepared for stage violence and expletives as the show challenges how you see the world.

### Portage and Main

With The Whytes  
Wednesday, March 13 at 8 p.m.  
Avenue Theatre (9030 118 Ave.)  
\$12 at yeglive.ca

Beard lovers rejoice: a quintet of fresh facial hair is coming your way. But while they boast a plethora of impressive scruff, the Vancouver-based Portage and Main has more than facial hair to offer to Avenue Theatre. With flourishing folk roots reminiscent of Canadian stakeholders Blue Rodeo and The Band, the group settles in well with their opening act, local smooth rockers The Whytes, and promises a chill night in Canadian familiarity.



SUPPLIED: TRULIE LEE

## The Citadel's *Kite Runner* offers an emotional recollection of Afghanistan

### THEATRE PREVIEW

### The Kite Runner

ADAPTED BY &gt; Matthew Spangler

DIRECTED BY &gt; Eric Rose

STARRING > Anousha Alamian, Abraham Asto, Dalal Badr, Pooria Fard, Omar Alex Khan, Gerry Mendicino, Ali Momen, Parnelli Parnes, Michael Peng, Conor Wylie, Bahareh Yaraghi and Norman Yeung

WHEN > Runs Saturday, March 9 - Sunday, March 31 at 7:30 p.m., matinées at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 21 and Sunday, March 24

WHERE &gt; Citadel Theatre (9828 101A Ave.)

HOW MUCH > Starting at \$36.75 at citadeltheatre.com

### Billy-Ray Belcourt

ARTS &amp; CULTURE WRITER • @BILLYRAYB

What is Afghanistan?

On the surface, this question seems to have shallow answers: it's a country plagued with violence, a country struggling to maintain autonomy and freedom, a country rife with war and suicide bombers. Westerners often don't realize their views are subjective and largely based on a specific time period.

Afghanistan has become a playground for schoolyard bullies such as the United States and the former Soviet Union, and on their paths of destruction, they've taken lives and destroyed villages. But as Afghan citizens fled the vicissitudes of war, any remnants of a proud and jovial country left with them.

In the Citadel Theatre's latest production of *The Kite Runner*, the West's misconceptions about Afghanistan are called into question. Many assume Afghanistan has always danced tumultuously with death and destruction. And accordingly, the play spans a long period of political events, starting with the epoch leading up to the fall of the monarchy, the Russian

invasion and ending with the resurgence of the Taliban.

Michael Peng, a recent U of A graduate playing the role of the main character's father, Baba, explains that what we consider to be common knowledge about Afghanistan is proven false throughout the play. It's a realization he came to himself over the course of the show.

"We know Afghanistan in a very specific way: in the context of war," Peng says. "When I conjured images of Afghanistan from the news, it's bleak, it's barren (and) nothing grows."

"It's been a really rich experience internationally and politically, trying to understand something that we kind of dismiss (and) put in a category very easily: 'Oh Afghanistan, I know what that is.'"

*The Kite Runner* is a coming-of-age story that follows the vivid recollections of the adult Amir (Anousha Alamian) as he relives the horrors, splendours and confusion that decorate his haunting past. Amir develops an inseparable friendship with his family's servant Hassan (Norman Yeung) at a young age, and when a horrendous event occurs that changes the boys' lives, Amir is left in an internal struggle with guilt and shame. Afghanistan becomes more than merely a geographical location as Amir and his father Baba flee to America in the wake of the Russian invasion. The country serves as a reminder of Amir's betrayal and of the beautiful society Afghanistan could've become.

"From the Russian invasion on ... there's just tremendous change that happens, and what I think the play does brilliantly as well is it captures the scope and the scale of that kind of change from this lovely life-filled culture to a culture (stripped) of its spirit, its pride and its honour," Peng says.

He also explains that inherent in the play is the interaction between politics and societal norms, as viewers witness the inhumanity that has surfaced in the turmoil-stricken country upon Amir's return.

"The telling of this story (has) a political dimension to it. There is a judgement, there is a

hatred (and) there is a judgement of a class of people being less than in the play," he says.

"Those are the themes that are certainly examined in the play and are left for us to apply on a personal level and then on a Canadian, national and societal level."

**"We know Afghanistan in a very specific way: in the context of war. When I conjured images of Afghanistan from the news, it's bleak, it's barren (and) nothing grows. It's been a really rich experience internationally and politically, trying to understand something that we kind of dismiss (and) put in a category very easily: 'Oh Afghanistan, I know what that is.'"**

MICHAEL PENG  
ACTOR, *THE KITE RUNNER*

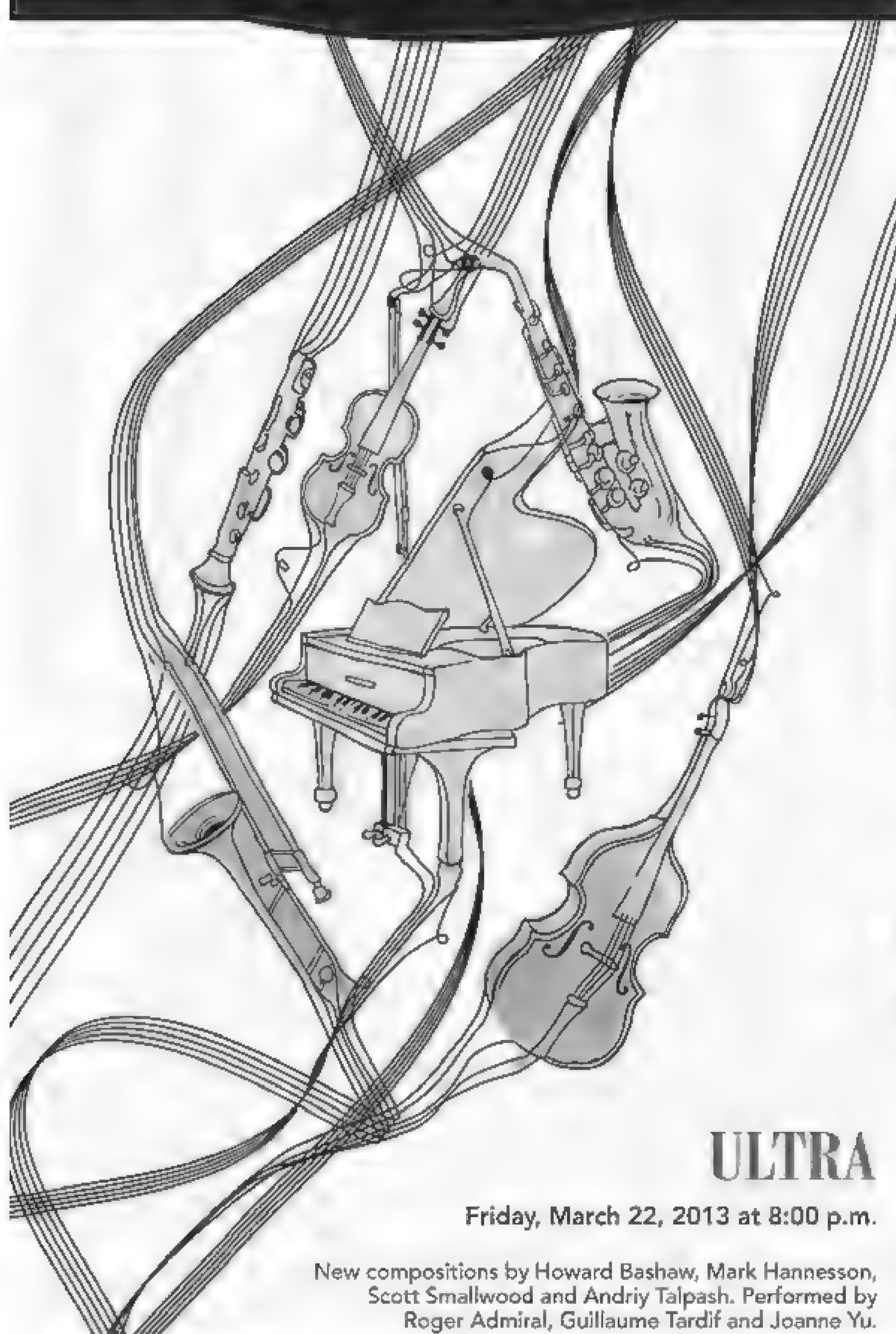
While the play also examines the interplay between multiple ethnicities as the Afghan refugees seek solace in America, Peng ultimately hopes this contrast between cultures and the exposure to pre-war Afghanistan will make the audience envision the country in a new light.

"One of the beautiful things (about this play) is that it shows Afghanistan — the lifestyle, the street culture, the warmth and vitality of the country — before the Russian invasion, before the Taliban (and) before the War on Terror," he explains.

"I hope people connect to Afghanistan ... (and the) richness of the culture in a way that they never have before, and I hope that leads to an openness to (all) cultures."



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**LGBTQ** The cast of *The Coming Out Monologues* prepares for their debut at Pride Week. ALANA WILLERTON

## The Coming Out Monologues offer catharsis at university Pride Week

### THEATRE PREVIEW

#### The Coming Out Monologues

**WHEN** Wednesday, March 13 and Thursday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m.

**WHERE** Dewey's

**HOW MUCH** \$11.75 for students at tixonthesquare.ca

**Kate Black**

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ■ @BLAHBLAHBLACK

You never come out just once.

That's what Joshua Carter, a performer in *The Coming Out Monologues*, says. He explains that while the "first time" you come out is the story you tell the most, being comfortable and proud with who you are is never a static occurrence.

"It's a process, because every day you interact with new people and it's kind of behind the scenes. You have to make a choice every day: 'Am I going to be open right now with this new person?' It's ongoing," he says.

Carter, along with four other performers aged 22 to 78, are sharing their own coming out stories at *The Coming Out Monologues*, taking place at the U of A's first-ever Pride Week. The idea for the show originated from the Faculty of Nursing, where faculty members wanted to create a safe space for the LGBTQ community, who then teamed up with the Faculties of Education and Arts to transform the stories into a show.

Now in its second year of production, the show has evolved with the cast since its origins, with some of the stories being tweaked and expanded since the first show. While things have changed since the last production, it's due in part to the performers' experiences in *The Coming Out Monologues*.

"Going through the whole process just kind of made me feel yet another level of coming-out and just being more confident about being honest and up-front with the world," Carter says.

given that it was the first time they'd heard some of the details.

"They're sort of forced to sit back and listen without any questions or any interjections. It deepened our relationship, definitely," he says.

Director Tara Brodin has also been with the show from the start, and has witnessed the lives of the performers evolve since last year. Two cast members are getting married in the summer, and the eldest cast member, a reverend, will be officiating the ceremony.

"If I was to re-approach this piece three years from now or five years from now, it's like reading a novel. The novel really changes every time you read it — not because the words have changed, but because you have changed," Brodin says.

She explains that while themes of honesty and being true to yourself are woven throughout the stories, the process has been different for the older performers. Two of the cast members were married and had kids before coming out, while Brodin believes the younger cast members don't necessarily feel as much pressure to conform to specific roles for the sake of conforming to society.

Brodin says that ideally, the performance will reach out to people admittedly "like (her) parents" who may not fully understand the ongoing process of becoming oneself. However, she adds that there's something to be gained by everyone who watches the show, herself included.

"Hearing the stories helped me realize that I'm okay too. I think that's what personal stories do — they validate our own existence in some way."

**"If I was to re-approach this piece three years from now, it's like reading a novel. The novel really changes every time you read it — not because the words have changed, but because you have changed."**

TARA BRODIN  
DIRECTOR, THE COMING OUT MONOLOGUES

While few of the cast members have strong backgrounds in acting and performance, Carter explains the show gains strength from the rawness of sharing such personal stories, adding that this process was "incredibly cathartic." Some of this catharsis came from telling his story with his parents in the audience,

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\$3 bowl of borscht and bun  
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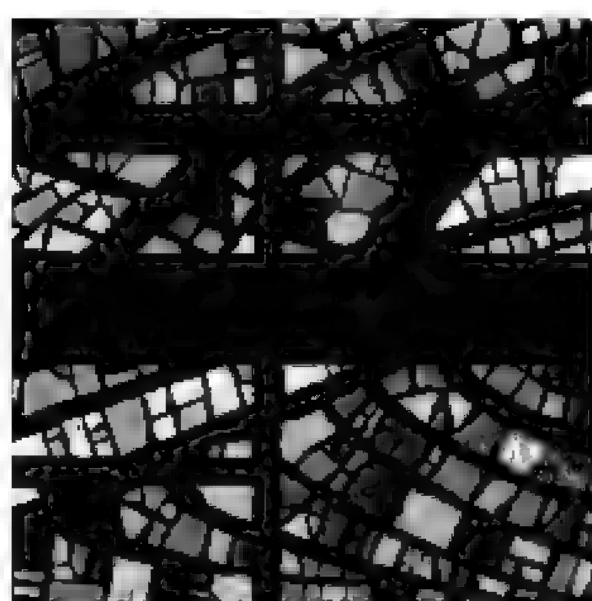


- Additional beverages available for purchase.
- Parking available in Safeway lot with parking pass from SJL.

Drop by and help us start a new tradition on Whyte Avenue!  
It's the perfect meal for cheap movie nights!

Join our Facebook group at: facebook.com/groups/stjohnsinstitute/

### ALBUM REVIEW



#### Hollerado White Paint

Arts & Crafts  
Hollerado.com

**Cameron Lewis**

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ■ @COOOM

Canadian band Hollerado manages to avoid the dreaded sophomore slump with the release of their second studio album *White Paint*. A follow-up to their nationally successful album *Record In a Bag* — which earned them a 2011 Juno nomination for Best New Group — *White Paint* shows a noticeable progression from the group's

first album.

While the album manages to maintain the same distinct style of music as *Record In a Bag*, the vocals and instrumentals have dramatically matured this time around. One key difference from their last album is the flow of the songs, which alternate from fast-paced rock to slow

ambience. The latter style is best shown through the soft, soothing rhythm of songs such as "Wonder, Velocity, Charlie and Me." Later on the album, the band drives on a collision course through bouncy rock songs "Don't Think" all the way to "Pure Emotion," creating a pleasant contrast for listeners that tells more of a story than *Record In a Bag*.

Although their sophomore album may not have the huge hit singles of their first, Hollerado's *White Paint* is definitely a step in the right direction for an up-and-coming Canadian rock group. A fun, upbeat band with old-fashioned rock and roll undertones, Hollerado will hopefully live to see another Juno nomination come their way in the future.



# Steve De Bruyn spins passion for skateboarding into art

## ART PREVIEW

### On/Off (Course)

**CREATED BY** > Steve de Bruyn  
**WHEN** > Runs until Friday, April 12  
**WHERE** > Harcourt House Artist Run Centre (10215 112 St.)  
**HOW MUCH** > Free

**Billy-Ray Belcourt**  
 ARTS & CULTURE WRITER • @BILLYRAYB

Simply mentioning the word 'skateboarding' provokes images of easy-going, tight-jeans-and-plaid-wearing teenagers with long, flowing locks. But although Steve de Bruyn is a 30-something artist, his laid-back and relaxed attitude perfectly embodies everything that is skateboarding culture — especially through his art exhibits.

Currently featured at Harcourt House, de Bruyn's exhibit On/Off (Course) is made up of an assortment of masterfully crafted ramps, loops and other wooden creations that decorate the walls and floor of the main gallery. It's a collection of artwork de Bruyn says is modelled on the geometric characteristics of skate parks, amusement parks and Hot Wheels tracks.

The entire ensemble adds a hint of youthfulness and originality to the marshmallow white walls of the art gallery, and de Bruyn's obsession with skateboarding culture engulfs the room as each segment of a

potential skate park bursts from the walls, even going so far as to paint portions of the walls to provide a fresh feeling of fervour for viewers.

De Bruyn's success comes from transforming something as commonplace and overlooked as skateboarding into a personal form of artistic expression.

**"(Skateboarding is) like an ingredient, you know? I'm making an entire salad here and skating is just the lettuce. We're not even close to the dressing, you know what I mean? I'm just chopping up the lettuce."**

STEVE DE BRUYN  
 ARTIST

"It's what started me out — I owe skateboarding a lot. I started making ramps just because I wanted to be cool," de Bruyn says.

"Skateboarding is kind of like a raw ingredient. It's a starting point. It's an inspiration to me, just like anything. Some people are inspired by trees and landscapes; I'm inspired by skateboarding."

De Bruyn embodies spontaneity when assembling his exhibits, using any available materials within the vicinity of the gallery. And if he feels so inclined, a trip to a nearby dump or a littered beach often reaps

rewards for this scavenging artist. It's part of his distinct artistic trademark, which comes to life through a use of colours that results in a kaleidoscope-like array of bright and booming hues.

The ramp installments also showcase an intriguing sense of passion and originality, as de Bruyn builds his pieces from self-taught skills learned throughout his blossoming career, referring to himself as "an amateur carpenter and artist." A knee injury prevents de Bruyn from skateboarding much lately, so he fulfills his love for the sport by continuing to collect skateboards as motivators for his imaginative works. But while skateboarding is integral to his installments, it only displays the surface of his artistic intentions.

"(Skateboarding is) like an ingredient, you know? I'm making an entire salad here and skating is just the lettuce. We're not even close to the dressing, you know what I mean? I'm just chopping up the lettuce," he explains.

De Bruyn's work is largely based on trying to challenge the notions that have come from the idea of art being a source of "high culture." He hopes viewers realize his installments are hands-on, and that art exhibits can be an interactive and enjoyable experience.

"Artwork can be about something as simplistic (as skateboarding). It's not about putting pretty paintings up on the wall and saying 'don't touch.' For me, it's about putting pretty paintings on the wall and saying 'do touch.'"



GRIFF CORNWALL

**PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA  
28TH ANNUAL FILM NIGHT**

**FILM IS DEAD;  
LONG LIVE FILM!**

**FREE EVENT!**

**2 GREAT EXPERIENCES  
ONE GREAT NIGHT!**

**7:30 p.m. - "Film is Dead; Long Live Film!"**  
 The Provincial Archives of Alberta invites you to watch films from our vaults, projected on celluloid and compare them with digitized films made with our brand new film scanner. See the analogue past and the digital future of film culture.

**THE NAKED FLAME**

**ARCHIVAL DOUBLE BILL**

**8:30 p.m. - The Naked Flame**  
 This "Censorship" flick from 1964 was shot in Alberta and inspired by the nudity and arson protests of the Doukhobor sect in the early 1900s. It's no history lesson - more of an excuse for attractive young people to bare it all by firelight.  
 Not suitable for children under 12.

**There's more -** Join us for a Film Night follow-up panel discussion, "Film is Dead; Long Live Film!"  
 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at the Provincial Archives of Alberta  
 8555 Roger Road, Edmonton  
 Please RSVP by email: [paaevents@gov.ab.ca](mailto:paaevents@gov.ab.ca) or by telephone: 780-427-1150

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CHRIS GEE

## Scenic Route to Alaska achieves momentum in local music scene

### MUSIC PREVIEW

### Scenic Route to Alaska

**WITH** > With Larry and his Flask, Rum Runners and Step Mothers

**WHEN** > Sunday, March 17 at 1 p.m.

**WHERE** > The Pawn Shop (10551 Whyte Ave.)

**HOW MUCH** > \$12 at yeglive.ca

**Chris Gee**

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF • @CHRISGGGGG

Picture this: three best friends growing up together in central Edmonton, forming a band and finding great success in their own city. It happens more often than you'd think, and for the three guys in Scenic Route to Alaska, blending their long-time friendship with music was a natural progression.

Singer and guitarist Trevor Mann had been playing music with bassist Murray Wood and drummer Shea Connor for about 12 years in various projects before starting their widely popular folk-rock group in the summer of 2011. But before they achieved local celebrity status, they were just kids living in the present.

"There were a couple summers where we had sleepovers every

single night," Mann recalls. "We're unbelievably lucky to have been really good friends before we were bandmates. And when the band came along, it was just fun to play music together because it was fun to do everything else together. And even then we didn't even think of taking it seriously at all."

Scenic Route to Alaska's sound caught on early, as they played the U22 showcase at the Edmonton Folk Music Festival in 2011 and earned the title of Sonic's Band of the Month a year ago. Now in their early 20s, the trio plays sentimental but charming pop melodies about love and heart-break. Their high-energy live shows always feature the crowd singing along to the contagious "ohs" and "ahs," which are accompanied by the band's intertwined folk guitar, bass set-up and knotty drum stomp.

And after starting off playing a couple times a week at small bars such as Wunderbar, the band has since worked their way up to filling larger venues in a relatively short period of time. Mann describes the band's evolution towards this type of reception as "an avalanche of momentum."

"Whenever you play for a sold-out room with a decent capacity, it's a thrill like no other. It's definitely an addictive thing and you want to do it all the time. And not even like (in) an attention seeking thing way. It's

just such a cool vibe to be playing to people who want to hear from you," he says.

"I can't get over (how) when we play a show and somebody is singing along and knows the words to the songs sometimes better than I do. It always blows my mind. I can't stop smiling and I love it, and that'll never stop, I'm sure. It's just so honouring."

After discussing the intimacies of the local music scene with Mann for more than an hour, it's clear Scenic Route to Alaska has carved out their own niche. The group is friends with — and have played with — Edmonton ex-pats like Mac DeMarco and Michael Rault, who've since found big success outside of the city as well. Mann hopes Scenic Route to Alaska can continue to build a strong reputation in Edmonton as well, and maybe one day achieve some of the same national notoriety as the former Edmontonians with whom they've shared the stage.

"All the scene needs is a bit of a push. But it's blossoming and growing faster than any other scene I've seen. It's coming up so quickly. The amount of talent and the amount of bands doing well, or should be doing even better just because of how good they are, it's crazy. We're so lucky to be here and there are a lot of cool things that are going to start happening here."

## fashion streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Alana Willerton**

**Cathy Zoleta**

ARTS II AFTER DEGREE

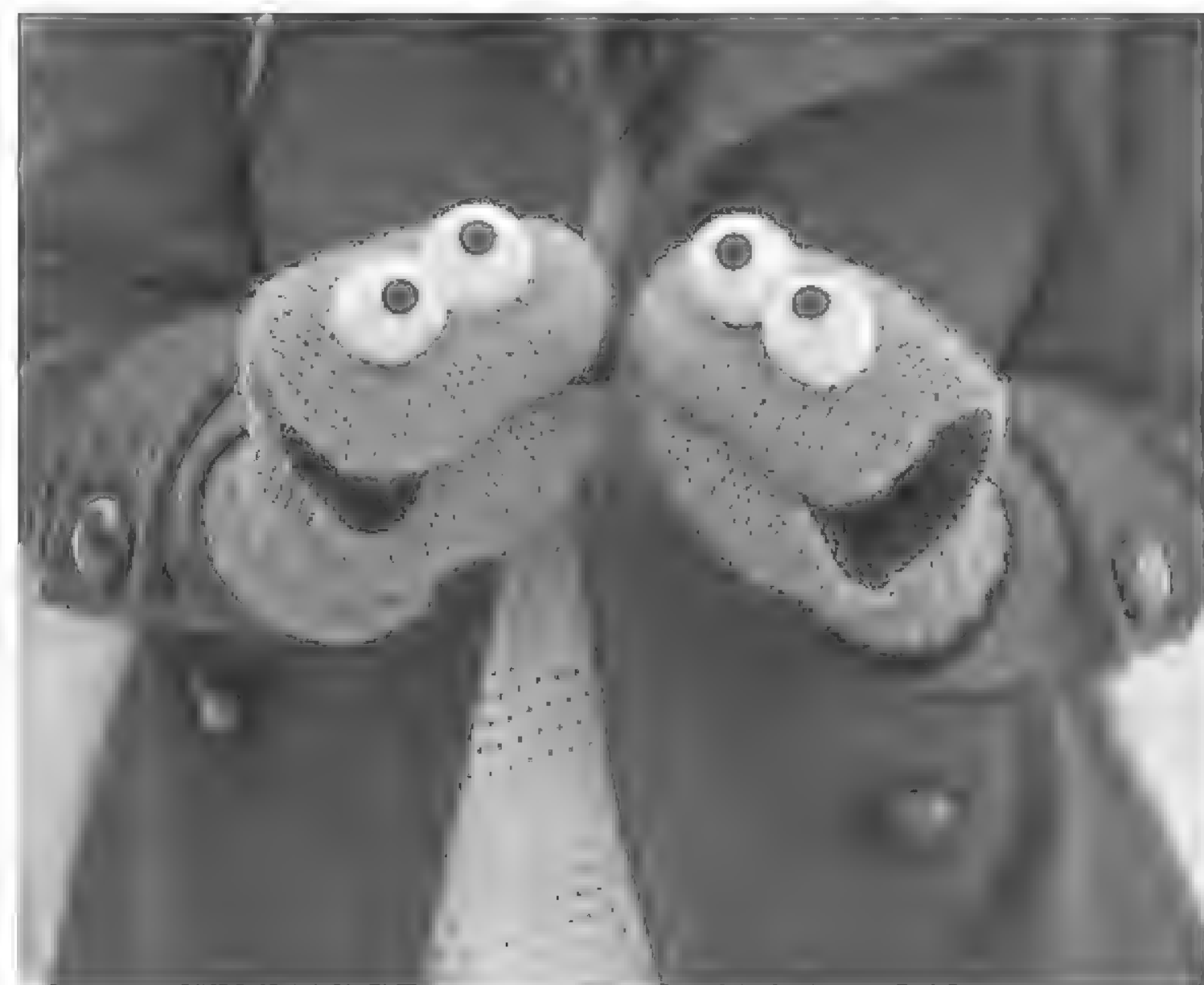


**GATEWAY:** > Describe what you're wearing.

**CATHY:** > This jacket is from Artizia and my boots were on sale at Sears. They're just the generic Sears brand. I'm wearing leggings, and my dress (and cardigan) are from Urban Outfitters.

**GATEWAY:** > What's your favourite thing you have on?

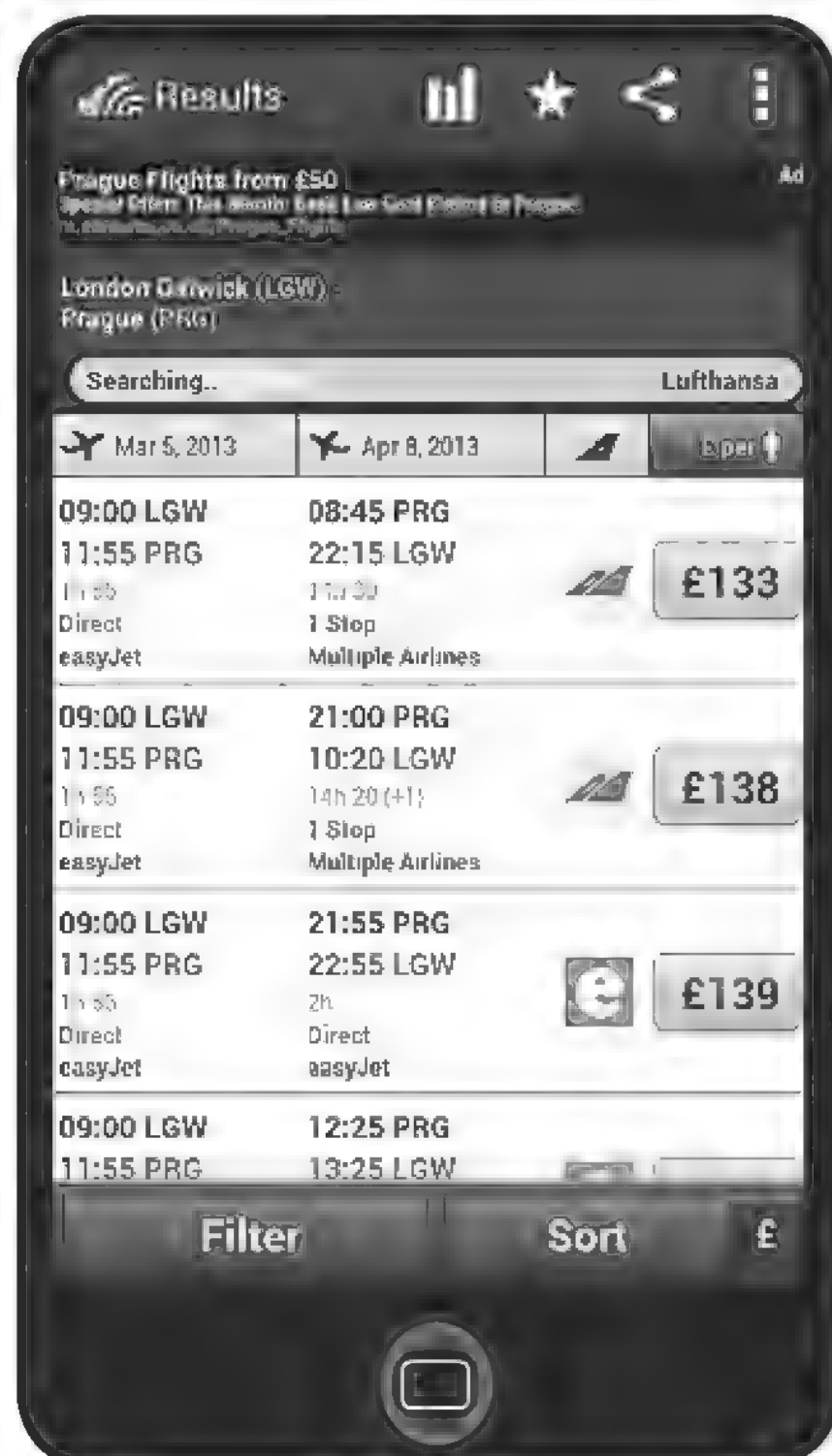
**CATHY:** > It's a toss up between my mitts, the dress and the boots. My dress, because of the polka dots. I like how it's layered and when you move, it kind of swirls. I also really like the boots; they're easy, comfortable. I'm a klutz sometimes, so these are actually really easy to walk in.



Check out [thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters](http://thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters) for more photos.

## datapp

WRITTEN BY **Philippe de Montigny**



### Skyscanner

**COST** > Free

**PLATFORM** > iPhone, iPad, Blackberry and Android

With the end of the term rapidly approaching, Skyscanner might be just what you need to find cheap flights to your next destination.

While many flight search apps leave a lot to be desired, Skyscanner is the exception. It doesn't try to sell you flights, but rather helps you find the cheapest deal to fit your needs.

Searching through millions of routes served by more than 1,000 airlines, the app provides you with options in

seconds. By simply clicking on your desired flight, it redirects you to the corresponding website to purchase your tickets.

Cool features make the mobile experience preferable to most full-blown flight search engines: it automatically saves your recent searches, and you can "star" your favourites to quickly compare prices daily. No account or sharing of personal info required.

And whether you're looking for an adventure or just to leave Edmonton, the "explore" function is for you: it lets you browse a world map for the cheapest flights on a chosen date. This feature might be a little overwhelming at first with all the prices popping out at you from the globe, but you can easily switch to a scroll-down list.

An incredibly user-friendly app, Skyscanner is the way to go for effortless flight search.

*Dat App is a weekly feature that highlights the best apps out there.*



brewsbrothers

WRITTEN BY Adrian Lahola-Chomiak and Ben Bourrie

Full Moon

**Brewery:** Alley Kat  
**Available at:** Most liquor stores

Some of my favourite beers also seem to be some of the most underrated. Beers brewed year-round rarely get the same attention as special or seasonal releases, but that doesn't mean they don't deserve it. I think it's important to celebrate those great beers we can get any time we're craving a great drink, which is why this week I checked out Alley Kat's Full Moon pale ale.

The beer pours a golden amber colour with about two fingers of thin white head, which dissipates quickly. In terms of aroma, there's a big hit of grapefruit peel backed up by floral hop notes and bread malt. Flavour-wise, the beer mimics the smell with a dry grapefruit rind taste with some tropical fruit and sweet malt in the background.

Full Moon isn't a hop bomb, but it highlights hop flavours and aromas in an interesting way that makes for a good session beer. The mouth feel is nice and light with a high degree of carbonation that matches well with the flavour.

If you're looking for a session beer that still delivers an interesting flavour profile, Full Moon pale ale is the beer for you. It has a great hop character in both the aroma and flavour, and I wish that more beer geeks in Edmonton in particular appreciated this local treat. I give it 8.5/10 and a hearty recommendation.



St. Lamvinus

**Brewery:** Cantillon  
**Available at:** Sherbrooke Liquor store (11819 St. Albert Trail)

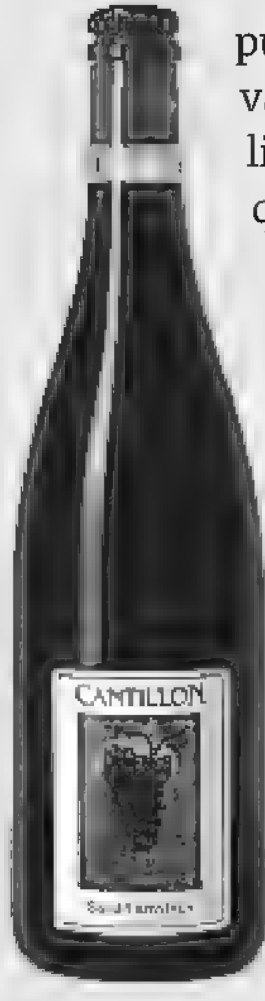
Cantillon is widely regarded as one of the best breweries in the world when it comes to making fruit lambics. The process results in intensely complex beers, which some compare to wine in terms of complexity. I decided to check out a Cantillon offering that blurs the line between wine and beer through the addition of merlot and cabernet grapes.

The beer pours an effervescent red-purple colour that's reminiscent of the varietals used in the blend. There's very little head, and what is there disappears quickly.

The nose is extremely vinous and slightly sour with notes of cherry, grape, lemon and vinegar. There's also a mustiness that's common in lambics and some lactic acid notes as well.

The taste is quite sour up front, followed by more vinous grape skin, lemon acidity and some oak to dry it out. There's also some funky mustiness and lactic acidity to go along with tart green apple peel with a mouth-watering sour finish. The taste profile of this beer is extremely complex, and the mouth feel is light with a high carbonation, making the beer seem similar to champagne.

While I wouldn't recommend this to a new beer drinker or to someone uninitiated in sour beer, this beer is definitely something special if you have started your foray into the world of lambics, or you're a wine person interested in expanding your tastes. It earns a 9/10.



site unseen

COMPILED BY Jennifer Robinson

The Lizzie Bennet Diaries

<http://www.lizziebennet.com>



A fan of all things Jane Austen? Craving a *Pride and Prejudice* fix but looking for something a little different? The Lizzie Bennet Diaries are for you.

Created by YouTube sensation Hank Green, TLBD showcases what *Pride and Prejudice* would have been like if Lizzie had lived in the present day and had her own vlog. Through this format, Lizzie interacts directly with her audience to fill them in on exactly what's going on in her life.

In this adaptation, the large Bennet clan is significantly reduced by the fact that there are only three Bennet sisters: Lizzie, Jane and Lydia. Sister Mary is a cousin who makes rare appearances, and Kitty Bennet is, well, a kitty. In addition to the cast adaptations, the web series has also modernized many of the plot points. Gone are the days of letters and word of mouth, instead using texts and Twitter to spread their gossip and bad news.

The web series has been gaining in popularity as it progressed, and many of the characters even have their own Twitter and Tumblr pages now. Unfortunately, they're drawing closer to the end of the book, and it's rumoured there are fewer than 10 episodes left. So if you like *Pride and Prejudice* and have a few hours to spare, then check out TLBD before it's too late.

Site Unseen is a semi-regular feature in which Gateway writers highlight underappreciated websites for you to peruse when you should really be studying.

*The Incredible*  
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# Sports

## Sports Editor

Andrew Jeffrey

## Phone

780.492.6652

## Email

sports@gateway.ualberta.ca

## Volunteer

Sports meetings Thursdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

## CIS University Cup

Thursday:

1 p.m. - Pool A: Alberta vs. Waterloo  
7:15 p.m. - Pool B: UNB vs. Saskatchewan

Friday:

1 p.m. - Loser Pool B vs. Saint Mary's  
7 p.m. - Loser Pool A vs. UQTR

Saturday:

1:30 p.m. - Winner Pool B vs. Saint Mary's  
8 p.m. - Winner Pool A vs UQTR

### 1) U of A Golden Bears

Canada West champions

Regular season record: 23-4-1

Second-ranked offence and first-ranked defence in CIS

Has won a record 13 national championships. Last University Cup came in 2008.



### 2) UNB Varsity Reds

Atlantic University Sports champions

Regular season record: 23-5-0

Has won three CIS championships in past five years on odd years (2007, 2009 and 2011).

Third consecutive appearance at University Cup.



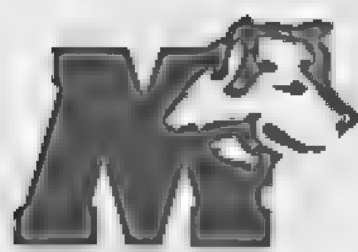
### 3) UQTR Patriotes

Ontario University Athletics champions

Regular season record: 21-6-1

Returning to CIS nationals

Has won four University Cups



### 4) Saint Mary's Huskies

Atlantic University Sport finalists

Regular season record: 18-7-3

Won first University Cup in 2010



### 5) Saskatchewan Huskies

Canada West finalists

Regular season record: 19-8-1

Has won one University Cup in 1983



### 6) Waterloo Warriors

Ontario University Athletics finalists

Regular season record: 12-11-5

Returning to CIS nationals

Has won one University Cup in 1974

Hasn't appeared at nationals since 1996

## Bears look to add another title to 2013

### HOCKEY PREVIEW

### University Cup

Thursday, March 14 – Sunday, March 17  
Credit Union Centre, Saskatoon, SK

Andrew Jeffrey

SPORTS EDITOR • @ANDREW\_JEFFREY

A dominating start to the 2013 calendar year has seen the Bears hockey team roll through 15 Canada West regular season and playoff games with 13 wins, making them the first-ranked team at this year's University Cup.

But this year presents a unique challenge for the Bears at the CIS annual men's hockey national championship. From March 14-17, the Bears will battle for the University Cup in Saskatoon at the home of the Saskatchewan Huskies, a team that's grown to be the Bears' biggest on-ice rivals in the CanWest conference.

"I don't anticipate us getting much love over there in Saskatoon this week," third-year forward Johnny Lazo said. "It's going to be us against the world, it seems like. I guess we'll just have to have our fans there and our own parents and families, and that's going to be about it for us."

The Bears are returning to nationals after missing the 2012 tournament after a CanWest semi-final elimination that disappointed the team and stuck with them throughout the summer.

"Not being able to make it the last season is definitely a let-down on the program," Lazo said. "We definitely expected to be there; that's our own expectations: to compete and contend every season, and last year we didn't do that. We have a group of guys that were all there last season that are all hungry for redemption this season."

As the CanWest champion the Bears weren't placed in the same pool as the conference finalist Huskies at this tournament and the two teams won't meet again unless they're in the University Cup game



HARRY DL

itself. But the crowd could still be hostile towards the Bears in their matchups against their Pool A rivals from Saint Mary's University and Waterloo, both conference finalists in other parts of CIS.

While the Bears marched to a Canada West championship with an impressive 23-4-1 record, the Waterloo Warriors surprised everyone, joining their first University Cup tournament since 1996. The Warriors finished the regular season just above a .500 winning percentage with a record of 12-11-5 before making a run through playoffs to qualify for nationals

Meanwhile, the fourth-ranked Saint Mary's Huskies will meet the Golden Bears at nationals again after the Bears placed as runners-up to the national champions SMU Huskies. Going into these two opening round robin games, every matchup will be do-or-die for the Bears if they want to advance to the national championships.

"This is just the time to showcase what the U of A has done this year," sophomore Bears forward Levko Koper said. "Everyone's going to raise their game. We're going to be

excited, nervous — there's a bunch of emotions going on, but in the end we just have to win, and we want to play on Sunday."

One of the Bears' biggest strengths this year has been the impressive goaltending from Kurtis Mucha, who set a CanWest shutout streak record, and Real Cyr, who set a conference record for allowing the least goals against this season.

"It definitely comes down to (Mucha) in the end, but at the same time it comes down to the whole team contributing every game, trying to give them the least opportunities possible," Koper said. "We know if we make a couple mistakes, he's going to back us up and make a couple saves, but we're also worried about our defensive game, and if we do that then we're going to be a tough team to play against."

Moving forward through the tournament, it's the Bears' depth that will be their biggest strength in the tournament with head coach Ian Herbers confident in all four lines, six defencemen and both goalies on the ice. Lazo knows that despite his role as one of the Bears' top scorers, he's confident in his teammates' ability to

produce points without him.

"(Scoring is) a little more difficult (in the playoffs) than the regular season," Lazo explained. "You know you're going to be watched a little closer, checked a little tighter, and I relish that. I take pride in being able to overcome those obstacles and being able to contribute to the team."

"But at the same time, if I'm not producing, I know there's a whole lineup on the team that will step up if I'm not scoring."

The biggest challenge for every team at this tournament is how they'll take on each opponent with little prior knowledge of their playing style. Besides Waterloo and SMU, the Bears also could play the University of New Brunswick, a team that's won two of the past four University Cups and UQTR for the first time this year.

"Some of the other guys played some of the other top teams that go every year ... but we haven't personally seen anything from them yet," Koper said. "Our coaches have video from their games in playoffs, so we're looking at that to prepare for each game."

"It's a blind tournament. We just need to play our game."

## Former U of A track star looks for gold at 2014 Olympics

### ALUMNUS PROFILE

Atta Almasi

SPORTS STAFF

For those unaware of the intricacies of the sport, the word bobsleigh may only conjure up memories of the hit 1992 comedy *Cool Runnings*. Apart from being hilarious, the movie documented the path of a team of Jamaicans aiming to compete in the 1988 Olympic Winter Games in Calgary.

Although the story of a track star who resorts to leading a four-man sled in the Olympics after failing to qualify for the Summer Games may provide sound fodder for a plotline in a funny film, for Edmontonian and University of Alberta alumnus Neville Wright, the story draws some eerie parallels — even if he says the movie's depiction of his sport is little more than fiction.

Neville Wright was a standout

track and field star as a sprinter for the Golden Bears in the 2000s during his tenure at the U of A. When Wright was recruited by Bobsleigh Canada, his track coach was already doing strength and conditioning for the bobsleigh team.

"I just missed qualifying for the '08 summer games by like two hundredths (of a second), because I was injured. I just got sick and everything," Wright said about his dreams of competing at the Summer Olympics in track and field. "They told me to come out for bobsleigh, come out for a camp and see what happens. I went and tested really well, and they said I had a chance to go to the games and make it on the team. That was in February of '09. So I trained in the summer, made the team in September and then went to the games that year."

The adjustment for Wright, which included warming up for

events in snowy parking lots rather than nice, rubber tracks, was not as difficult as some might believe, but still not as easy as the popular John Candy film depicts.

"It wasn't that challenging because, I mean, it's a speed and power sport," Wright said. "Myself as a sprinter already, I had (a) majority of what was needed for bobsleigh. All I needed to work on was the technique and being able to hit the sled, load and pull the breaks. So, the transition wasn't very hard."

That adjustment may not have been difficult, but Wright also had to adjust to competing simultaneously with teammates as opposed to the individual solitude a sport like track demands. Although the camaraderie may differ from sled to sled, Wright maintains that when the lights go on, everyone accomplishes their role effectively.

"All the Canadian spirit and the camaraderie and everything that

was going on ... it was unbelievable," Wright said. "There was so much support ... Not just family and friends, but just support all over. It was a great experience."

Wright, who was part of the CIS awards ceremonies for the Track and Field national championships held at the Butterdome this past weekend, also explained the significance of being an ethnic minority competing for Canada in a sport that has traditionally included few visible minorities.

"It just shows that for minorities, they're not restricted to just summer sport," he said, adding that for athletes like him and Shelly-Ann Brown, raising the sport's profile can only help encourage those from minority communities to take up winter sport.

"It's good ... because then (they) can see that there's opportunities and other sports that they can get into."






**The Gateway's brolitical reporter Douche Brewski recently arm wrestled his way to Students Union' glory.**

CHECK OUT OUR VIDEO ON THEGATEWAYONLINE.CA TO SEE WHICH EXECS HE TOOK DOWN.

**gateway** multimedia

MULTIMEDIA MEETINGS AT 3 P.M. ON WEDNESDAYS IN 3-04 SUB

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The application deadline for activities taking place from July - December 2013 is  
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# Veteran Bears receivers bring experience back from combine

**FOOTBALL PROFILE**  
**Andrew Jeffrey**  
SPORTS EDITOR • @ANDREW\_JEFFREY

As the Golden Bears football team re-groups to begin training under a new head coach, two of the Bears' veteran players are looking to encourage a winning attitude in their team after their invites to an upcoming skills combine.

On March 18, Edmonton will host its first CFL regional draft combine at the Commonwealth Stadium Fieldhouse to prepare top draft eligible athletes for the league's annual three-day combine in Toronto from March 22-24. Despite the Bears' second straight winless record in Canada West play last fall, CFL scouts were impressed enough with individual players to invite four U of A athletes to the event, including quarterback Curtis Dell, running back Smith Wright and wide receivers Jess Val-leau and Ryley Richardson.

While Val-leau has proven him-self against the top players in the country at past CIS East West Bowl games, Richardson emerged as one of the Bears' top offensive weapons in 2012, improving his total receiv-ing yards from the previous season's total of 180 to 480. With their team's record of the past two seasons, both players enter the event knowing the reputation that can attach itself to players simply due to the school they attend.

"When you go to something like East West Bowl, you expect the guys from Laval and McMaster to be top players, and I guess sometimes you can just look at the school a guy's from and judge him based on that," Val-leau said.

"For receiver, if you don't have a good offence, it's not easy to have standout performances ... (CFL scouts) look at the tape and see how you run your route and they just look

for the best athletes."

The combine tests players' abili-ties in areas such as the 40 yard dash, vertical jump and one-one-one drills with top draft eligible defence pros-pects. Almost 40 players will be test-ed and interviewed at the combine, with the most impressive players in- vited to Toronto for another combine later in March.

**"You start to lose confidence and then it snowballs and you have a reputation of a losing team. Then you have to get back and you have to rebound, and that's what we're looking to do."**

RYLEY RICHARDSON  
BEARS WIDE RECEIVER

"All you can do is make an impres- sion and try to separate yourself from the other players," Richardson said. "Whether that's through bench press and 12 reps of 225 (pounds), jumping a 35-inch vertical or burning a guy one on one."

The combine will pit fifth-year Val-leau and fourth-year Richardson against some of the top defensive prospects in western Canada, an ex- perience the two can take back to the Bears to lead the U of A's offence as two of its most senior receivers this season.

"I've been starting here for four years, so I've been a veteran player for some time now," Val-leau said. "I'm not a vocal guy at all, but I try to lead by example and set an example, I guess, for younger guys coming in. It's just what you've got to do to pre- pare your body and stay healthy dur- ing the season and in the offseason."

The biggest change the two receiv- ers will admittedly need to instill

in their offence is ridding the team of the negative atmosphere that's plagued the players over the past two losing seasons. Losing is a degrading experience for competitive athletes, and according to the veteran receiv- ers, too much of it created an ac- ceptance of underperforming in the team's locker room.

"Coming in, I felt the receivers were more competitive, and after that I feel like there was a loss of competi- tive nature and just that want inside," Richardson said on the past attitude of his team.

"You start to lose confidence and then it snowballs, and you have a reputation of a losing team. Then you have to get back and you have to re- bound, and that's what we're looking to do," he continued.

"But once that snowball effect hap- pens, it's hard to get out of, and losing is acceptable on the field. People just don't make plays, there's dropped balls and missed assignments and the unacceptable becomes acceptable."

With the receivers and new head coach Chris Morris poised to move the Bears away from accepting los- ing records, it could take a number of seasons for the Bears to build their football program back up to its for- mer glory.

But with the experience Val-leau, Richardson and their fellow Alberta combine attendees will bring back, the Bears seem more confident that the U of A could be fielding a much improved team this fall.

"I think we're doing everything we can at this point to be a winning team ... You can't expect to rebound from a winless team and rebound to a CIS championship team, but it's all about rebuilding the system and culture of the team," Richardson said.

"For me, (I feel) a sense of urgency to create and enforce that culture for the younger guys that are coming in. It's not about me anymore — it's about the team."

**player spotlight**



GRIFF CORNWALL

**Jess Val-leau**

**Wide Receiver**  
**Eligibility Year: 5**  
**6'0"**  
**Wainwright, AB**

- Led Bears with 190 punt return yards and 324 kick return yards in 2012.
- Led Bears in all purpose yards in both 2011 and 2012 seasons.
- 2009 Alberta Football League MVP and 2008 Alberta Football League Offensive MVP.

Season	Team	League	GP	Rec.	Yards	Avg	Avg/G	Rush.	PR	KR	Total	Total/G
2010	Alberta Golden Bears	CIS	8	28	469	16.8	58.6	19	37	197	722	90.2
2011	Alberta Golden Bears	CIS	8	14	267	19.1	33.4	0	231	330	828	103.5
2012	Alberta Golden Bears	CIS	8	29	434	15.0	54.2	-5	190	324	943	117.9

**player spotlight**



GRIFF CORNWALL

**Ryley Richardson**

**Wide Receiver**  
**Eligibility Year: 4**  
**6'4"**  
**Spruce Grove, AB**

- Led Golden Bears with 480 receiving yards and 60 yards per game in 2012.
- Finished fourth in Canada West conference in receptions per game in 2012.
- Male athlete of the year at St. Thomas Aquinas high school in 2008 and 2009.

Season	Team	League	GP	Rec.	Yards	Avg	Avg/G	Rush.	PR	KR	Total	Total/G
2010	Alberta Golden Bears	CIS	8	19	297	15.6	37.1	0	0	0	297	37.1
2011	Alberta Golden Bears	CIS	8	20	180	9.0	22.5	0	0	0	180	22.5
2012	Alberta Golden Bears	CIS	8	43	480	11.2	60.0	0	0	0	480	60.0



# Pandas seniors leave CIS behind with silver medal

## VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

**Atta Almasi**  
SPORTS STAFF

By the time they've reached their fifth year of CIS eligibility, very few student-athletes can truly say they've been able to reach the pinnacle of their sport multiple times.

But for the Pandas graduating fifth-year players Lia Stang, Jaki Ellis and Krista Zubick, achieving success in volleyball has just been part of the routine over their half decade of service for the Pandas.

"To win a silver medal at nationals (this year) was a pretty good accomplishment," fifth-year middle Stang said on the team's second consecutive runner-up finish at nationals.

"Getting that gold (was) still our ultimate goal. And just being in my fifth year I think made it even tougher — kind of knowing that it was our last chance. I'm still pretty proud of my team and everything that we got to the silver medal, especially where we started in the tournament ... (We had) two really tough games in the first part of the week, but I'm still pretty proud.

"Obviously (it was) really hard,

because it was my last year and we didn't really get that ultimate goal that we kind of worked towards for our whole career."

Aside from leading the Pandas to yet another national championship medal, Stang stressed that seeing the rival UBC Thunderbirds win a sixth consecutive national title was no easier to swallow. For Stang and her senior teammates, they've spent five years struggling to achieve consistent success against the always-talented T-Birds. Although the Pandas managed to beat the T-Birds in Canada West finals last year, the UBC team ended up beating them out for nationals that year and again in 2013.

"I'd say frustrating is the biggest word," Stang said of the repeated losses.

"Just really not being able to bring everything with you that you have to play against (UBC), because I think we could have had a lot better competition, especially at nationals against them with our team. (It) gets a little frustrating to see them win that much."

Apart from achieving success in the green and gold Pandas uniform, Stang has also been lucky to sport the red and white, representing

Team Canada along with Ellis and Zubick. She hopes to continue playing on this level, even though her days with the Pandas may be over.

"I'm definitely going to try out for Team Canada at the end of April," Stang said.

"Whether I make the team or not will kind of determine the next step I take, because if I'm able to play, that's five more months of playing."

"And eventually, I think just the way our season ended — not winning the ultimate goal that you wanted — is kind of pushing me to go play somewhere more. I'm definitely considering going to play pro for a year or two maybe, especially depending on how my body feels to hold up.

"But this summer especially, how the Team Canada tryouts go will definitely be a determining factor on how my volleyball career keeps going."

It's always difficult for fifth-year athletes such as Stang and her teammates Ellis and Zubick to move on from their time with the Pandas. But with the potential to keep her volleyball career going with Team Canada this summer, Stang is looking forward to her future in volleyball after CIS.



ZENG BEN HAO

## gym bag

COMPILED BY **Cameron Lewis**

Watching the Golden Bears and Huskies duke it out in the Canada West hockey championships, I was bothered by the ridiculousness of both teams' logos. These aren't forces to be reckoned with — they're goofy cartoon

characters with funny facial expressions.

The Golden Bears team logo has the most smug, pretentious, punchable face of any CIS team. The bear isn't even remotely ferocious or intimidating. In fact, it's just plain douchey: just take a look at that raised eyebrow and cocky smile. On the other hand, Guba the Golden Bear may look like a smug little douchebag, but at

least he isn't as apathetic looking as Saskatchewan's Husky.

Let's face it: the logos of these two teams — although they're historic mementos of a legacy of success — don't adequately reflect the nature of the teams. If the Bears and Huskies are trying to intimidate anyone with their mascot, they aren't doing a very good job.

The ironic thing about U of A

logos is that the team named after the animal going extinct due to laziness looks astronomically more ferocious than the animal people actually fear in the real world. The Pandas have a fantastic logo: relatively simple, yet nicely detailed and aggressive like a sports team's logo should be. While Patches the Panda looks like she would maul you to death, the Bear looks like he's peeking at

you with his one huge eye while you shower and the Husky looks like he just wants to cuddle up next to the fireplace while you read the newspaper.

The U of A needs to reconsider this logo. I'm not sure if a championship calibre team should be sporting a logo featuring a guy who may or may not have a lazy eye or should be standing in the gym asking people, "Do you even lift?"

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# The Gateway breaks brackets with March Madness picks



**Sports Staff**  
GROUP COMMENTARY

Carleton wrapped up CIS men's basketball national championships with a record ninth championship win.

The Ravens won a lopsided 92-42 game over Lakehead. The win means Carleton has won nine of the last 11 CIS championships.

Now Canadian college basketball fans can move on from CIS action and get their college basketball fix with the first round of NCAA March Madness, starting Tuesday, May 19.

## Mergim Binakaj

**Championship Favourite:** Indiana. Several key characteristics of a championship team were seen in Indiana's last-second finish in a hostile road environment against Michigan.

Victor Oladipo shut down Michigan's best player, Trey Burke, for the entire first half, proving himself as one of the best defenders in the country. Along with being a transcendent talent offensively, his length and athleticism allows him to defend several different positions.

Indiana's Cody Zeller scored the last six points for the Hoosiers, effortlessly busting double-teams and making clutch trips to the free-throw line. The Wolverines simply could not stop Zeller towards the end of the game.

Besides Oladipo and Zeller, Tom Crean exhibited great leadership in the final moments of a game nearly everyone thought Michigan would win. Superb coaching, along with great defence and reliable offence make this Hoosiers team a surefire favourite for the NCAA championship.

**Choke favourite:** Syracuse To be quite honest, Syracuse's late-season collapse after a ridiculous hot streak was inevitable.

I have yet to understand why many NBA scouts are clamouring to support Syracuse guard Michael Carter-Williams as the next great thing. He's a point guard with athleticism, but is very prone to turnovers and poor decision-making skills in crunch time.

The NCAA environment is the exact environment to expose Carter-Williams's flaws, along with the rest of the Orange.

**Player to keep up on:** Trey Burke He collapsed in last year's tournament, so all eyes are on him. With consistent play that's so poised and controlled, the comparisons to Chris Paul have been running rampant. Despite Burke showing an explosive performance in the second half against Oladipo, he's likely being haunted by a missed free throw in the recent Michigan vs. Indiana game in the final seconds — which should only motivate him further.

## Cameron Lewis

**Championship favourite:** Indiana Being in the Big 10 Conference, Indiana has faced the strongest competition the NCAA has to offer all season and has responded formidably, finishing with a 26-5 record. Although they don't have the best record in the NCAA, they're the best for a team with a difficult playing schedule. The Hoosiers have been in playoff mode all year, defeating strong opponents night after night, proving they are the real deal.

**Choke favourite:** Gonzaga Whoever plays the number one seed Gonzaga in the first round of the tournament honestly has the best chance of pulling off an upset. The Bulldogs play in the West Coast Conference, the weakest of the NCAA, leading to

their inevitable strong finishes year after year. Gonzaga breezed through the 2012-13 season and finished with a 30-2 record, due in part to the fact that they play teams such as Pepperdine and Loyola Marymount on a regular basis.

They haven't played in a meaningful game since December, when they lost to Illinois at home. Gonzaga is the classic example of a team that jogged to the finish line, facing weak competition all year that will get a smack in the face in the first or second round of the tournament.

**Player to watch:** CJ McCollum Remember when Lehigh State upset top seed Duke in the first round of March Madness, busting all but four brackets around the world?

CJ McCollum does. McCollum, a senior journalism major on Lehigh, has rocketed up the draft charts this year after playing a key role in his team's upset of Duke last year. Being a senior, this year's tournament will be McCollum's last chance to impress NBA scouts for the 2013 draft, so expect a strong effort and a big tournament from him.

## Atta Almasi

**Championship Favourite:** Gonzaga Now that Canada's Duke University, Carleton University has captured their third straight national championship, sports and basketball fans in Canada can officially shift their attention south of the 49th parallel as the March Madness phenomena known aptly as the Final Four of the NCAA swings into action next week.

Not only is this tournament awesome because a 60-something librarian in Seattle, Washington can win ESPN's tournament challenge, but also because certified bracketologists everywhere are trying to finalize their winning formula to determine which team

will walk away with the crown, or glass slipper — come national championship Monday in April.

In terms of looking for an early favourite, the nationally first ranked Gonzaga Bulldogs out of the West Coast Conference should be a great team to latch onto.

Despite being known more for being a perennial mid-major power that runs through their conference but struggles with tournament success, the Zags are also known for recruiting and pumping out Canadians from their program, which should make routing for them easier.

**Cinderella favourite:** Butler In terms of choosing a cinderella candidate for this year's edition of March Madness, one need look no further than the Butler Bulldogs.

Besides having a coach who, at 36 years old, has already led his team to back-to-back national championship games and still looks like he could be one of the players on the team.

The Bulldogs epitomize the notion that small, liberal arts colleges centred around academic success and graduation rates can find success playing with the perennial big boys.

Butler's past successes at the tournament, is part of a growing trend of Midwestern United States schools of dismantling much larger schools with future NBA stars, giving hopes to nearby schools who may be looking to follow in the Bulldogs' footsteps.

**Player to watch:** Kevin Pangos While you're trying to bypass TSN's monopolistic Final Four contract rights to get to CBS on-demand coverage of the tournament, one player and Canuck to watch out for is Kevin Pangos.

A basketball prodigy since Grade 10, Pangos and his parents decided to do the risky yet honourable thing of rejecting the growing trend, particularly amongst GTA high school ballers, of Canadian hoop stars enrolling

in basketball "prep academies" in order to achieve exposure.

Instead Pangos choose to stick it out at his local public high school in Newmarket. This decision, which has surprisingly paid off, has helped vault both Pangos and his Zags to become players to watch in terms of making an impact deep into March and maybe even April.

## Curtis Auch

**Championship Favourite:** New Mexico As uneducated as I am in the world of basketball, I can tell when a team plays well against tough competition, and New Mexico certainly can.

Despite having one of the most difficult schedules in the country, they've lost only five games, and their most recent loss to Air Force was incredibly close. They're an underdog, sure, but I think the Lobos can surprise everyone enough to have a shot at the championship.

**Choke favourite:** Duke The Duke Blue Devils seem to be the San Jose Sharks of the NCAA. They have loads of talent every year, yet they occasionally seem to lose their way against weaker teams.

Last year, they lost to the 15th-seeded Lehigh, and just six weeks ago they were crushed 90-63 by number 25 Miami. To me, Duke seems like a glass cannon — a team that can dish it out when they want to, but can't necessarily take it. My guess is it leads to an upset by a lucky lower seed.

**Player to Watch:** Kelly Olynyk The Gonzaga Bulldogs' seven-foot centre is a dynamic scoring presence at 21 years old, and best of all, he hails from British Columbia.

As a skinny white Canadian male, I've had very few basketball-related role models growing up (Steve Nash notwithstanding), but I may have just found another.

## Potential NHL playoff realignment: fair change or unfair playoff chances

Pros outweigh cons in potential regional NHL conference realignment



**Atta Almasi**  
POINT

For many hockey fans, the NHLPA's acceptance of the National Hockey League's latest realignment proposal comes as a signal that the league and the players' association are finally accepting reason. Maybe now, they can adjust the league to reflect the recent expansion of the last two decades.

But of course, as with all kinds of changes, there are the winners celebrating the ratification of the proposal as well as losers whining that the changes are unfair and biased. The good thing for the league, players, fans and owners is that in this case, the winners far outstrip the losers. The teams that received the short end of the stick from the realignment proposal are the ones no one really cares about anyway.

The winners in the realignment proposal floated by the league and accepted by the players' union are first and foremost the Winnipeg Jets.

Under the new realignment, they moved out from the geographically inconvenient Southeast Division, where they played for the last two seasons as the former Atlanta Thrashers, to the newly minted Midwest Division, where they will join more proximity-appropriate rivals such as the Minnesota

Wild and the Chicago Blackhawks.

The other two winners are, of course, the Central Division's Detroit Red Wings and Columbus Blue Jackets, who shift over from the Western Conference to the more convenient East so they can finally share a time zone with their conference rivals.

While there are those who will complain that accommodating Detroit's and Columbus's move to the East creates a conference imbalance in the league, the simple fact of the matter is that the new alignment proposal actually helps bring justice to all of the league's 30 teams.

Detroit and Columbus now get to play games at times that their fans can actually watch, and now they have to work that much harder to qualify for the post-season. At the same time, the western teams still have to travel across time zones and large geographical areas to play games, but they're rewarded with an easier road to Lord Stanley's Cup.

As for the Florida Panthers, Carolina Hurricanes and Tampa Bay Lightning, they've seen their traditionally weak division dissolved in favour of an exodus to deeper talent and salary cap pastures. But the fans and owners in those cities need not worry with the talent and more marquee matchups they'll play against.

Ideally, in a few years or decades, those franchises won't have to worry about the nonsensical notion of playing in the former "Northeast" division at all.

Proposed NHL realignment makes unequal odds for making playoffs



**Curtis Auch**  
COUNTERPOINT

Quick: what's 30 divided by four? According to the latest realignment proposal from the NHL, the math results in two groups of eight and two groups of seven. If this sounds like a shoddy equation, you're not alone in that thought.

If the new proposal is passed, the league will consist of four unequal conferences instead of two equal ones. The Midwest and Pacific Divisions, each containing seven teams, will replace the current Western Conference, while the current Eastern Conference becomes the Atlantic and Central Divisions, with eight teams apiece.

This creates several problems. For one, this mathematically prevents western teams from playing their divisional opponents an equal number of times. For example, a team in the Pacific Division could end up playing an easier opponent — like Edmonton — five times, while only playing a good team — like anyone other than Edmonton — four times. This might not seem significant, but team match-ups can play a huge role near the end of the season when teams are fighting for playoff spots, especially among western teams that are usually in a very tight race.

Worse yet, the proposed system creates an

unfair playoff format. According to the proposal, the top three teams in each division make the playoffs, with two wildcard spots for the Western divisions and two for the Eastern. So 14 western teams fight for eight spots, while 16 eastern teams fight for eight spots as well.

With no crossover rule, this means a western team has a roughly 57 per cent chance at the postseason, while an eastern team has only a 50 per cent shot.

Obviously this is unfair, and for a league that's managed to have a different Stanley Cup winner every year since 2003, this could significantly damage the relative parity between teams.

Some have argued that the unequal conferences are simply opening up room for creating western expansion teams in places like Kansas City or Seattle.

While this would fix the regional inequality, it seems unlikely that the NHL will take this route, as several teams in the southern United States have been struggling financially, making relocation a likelier option than expansion.

Ultimately, I'm not trying to defend the current NHL playoff and conference alignment system, because obviously it has issues. Detroit and Columbus should be considered eastern teams, and it's nothing less than ridiculous that Winnipeg has spent two years in the Southeast Division.

But if the NHL wants to address travel costs while still looking to the future, they need to do better than this.



# Diversions

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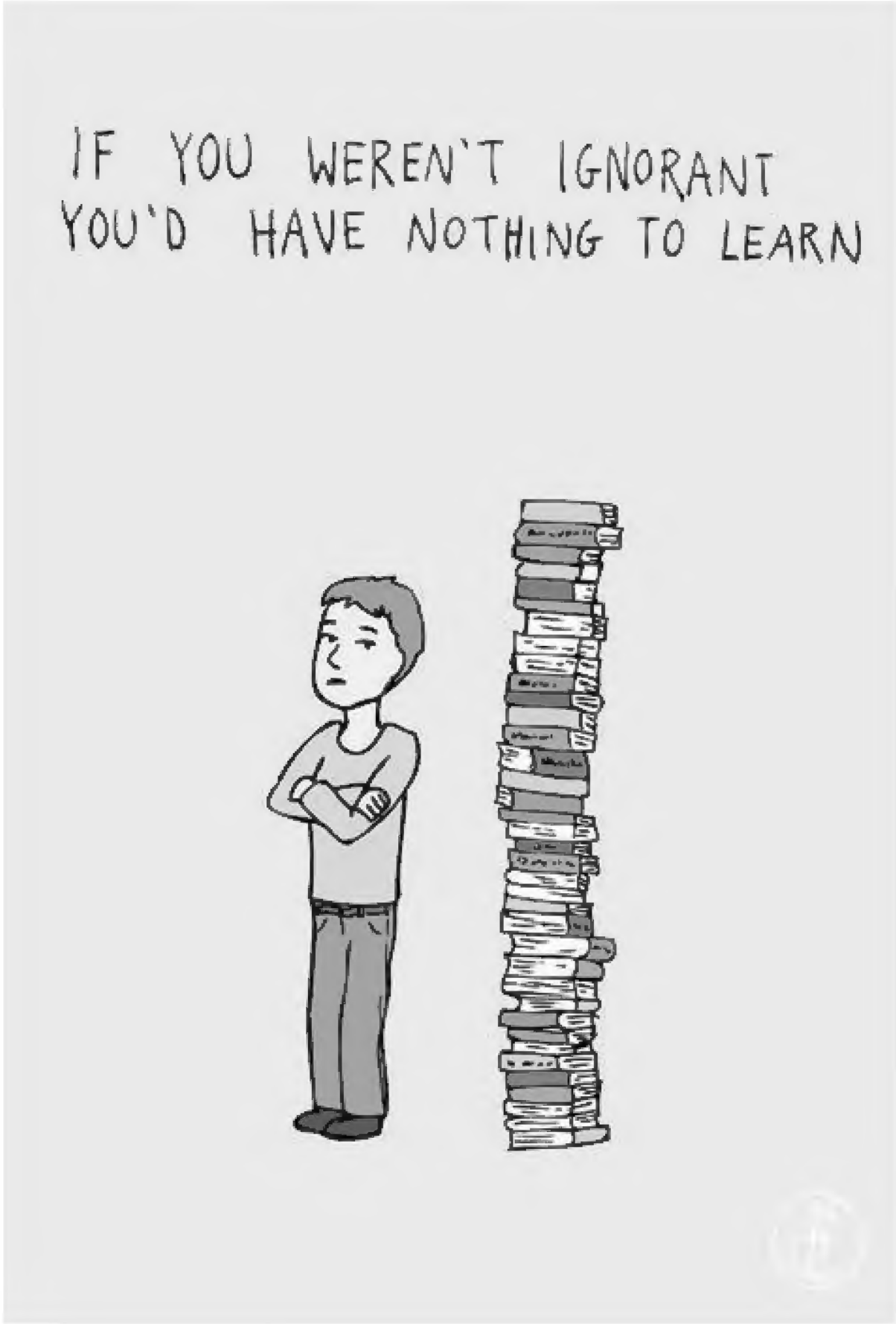
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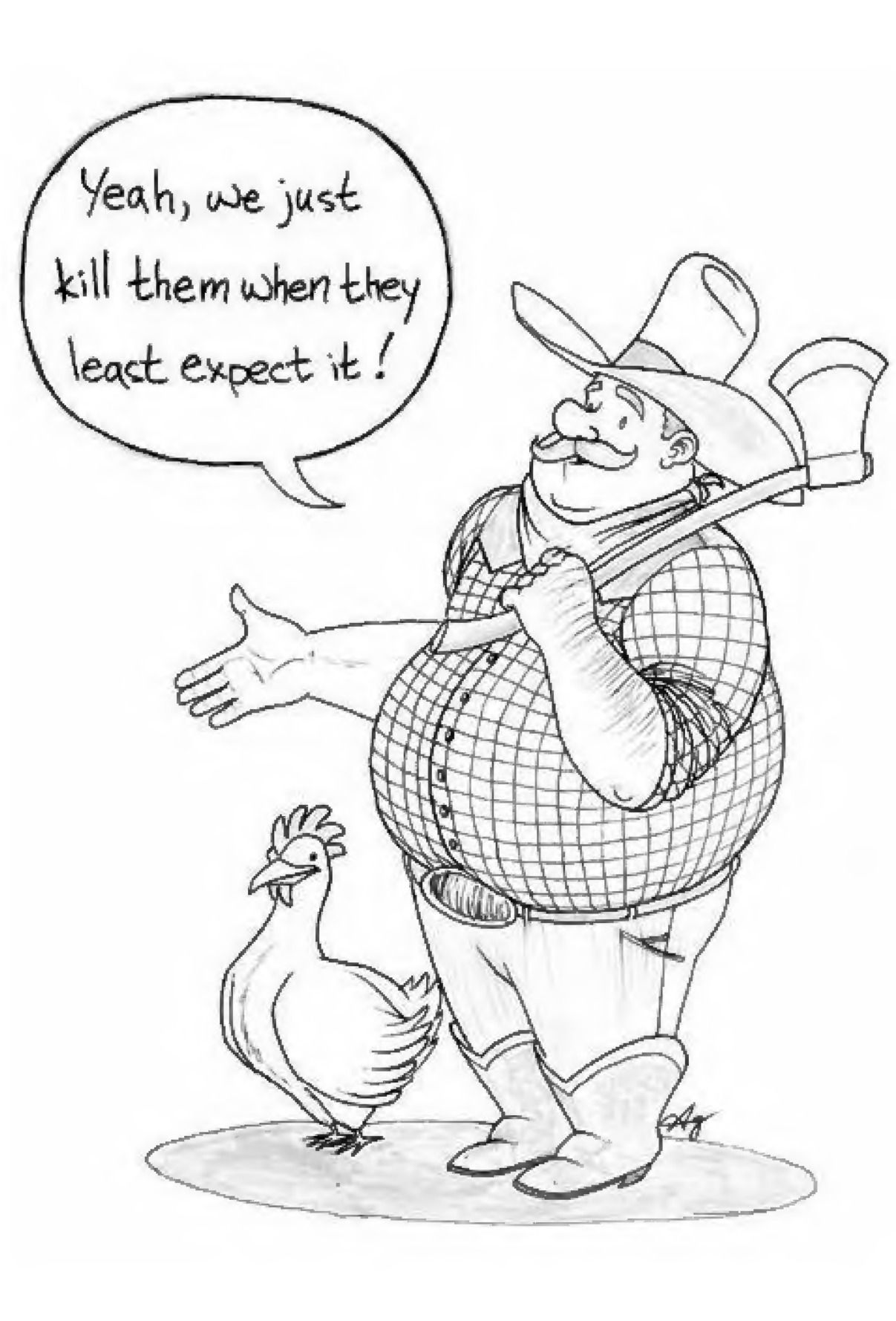
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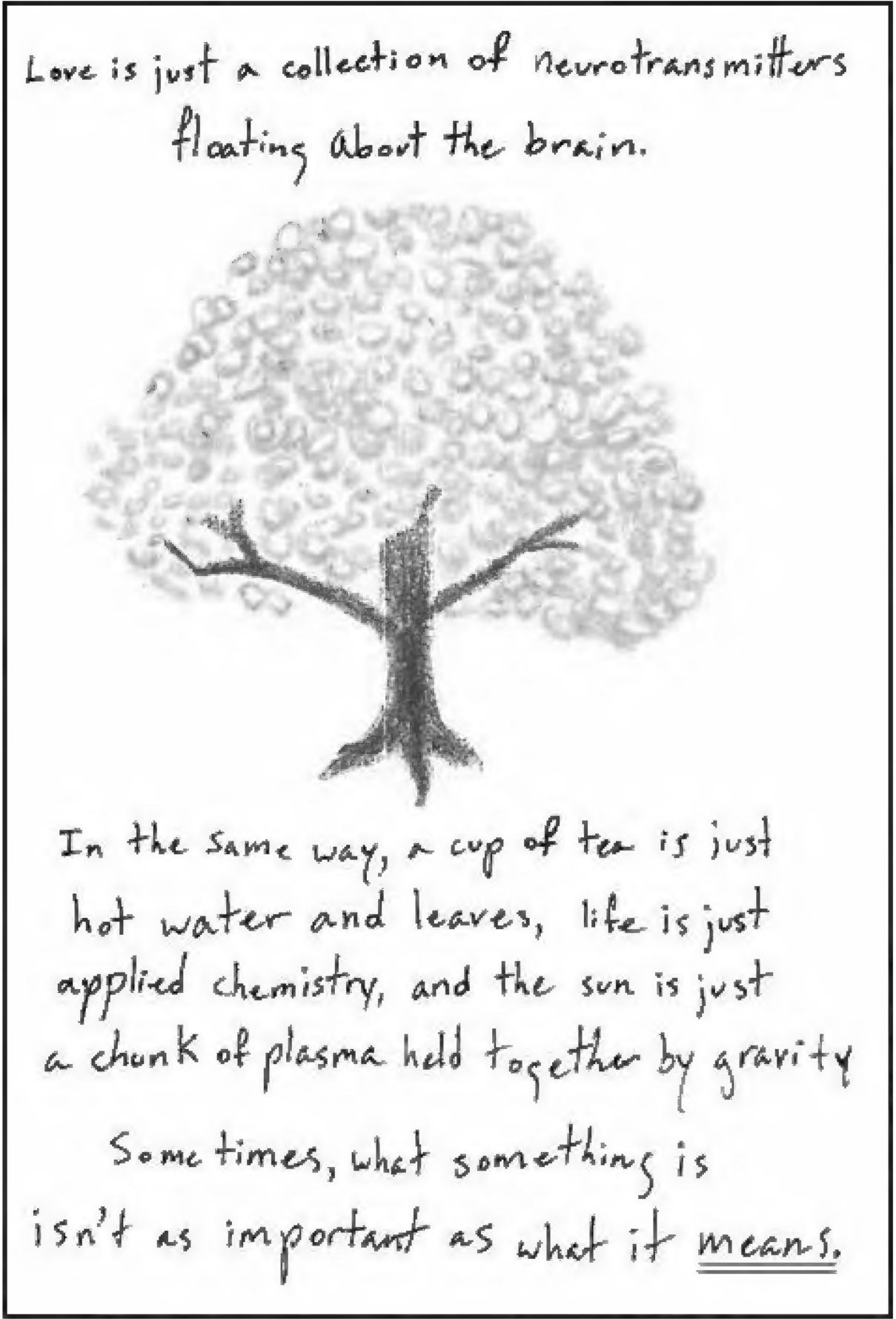
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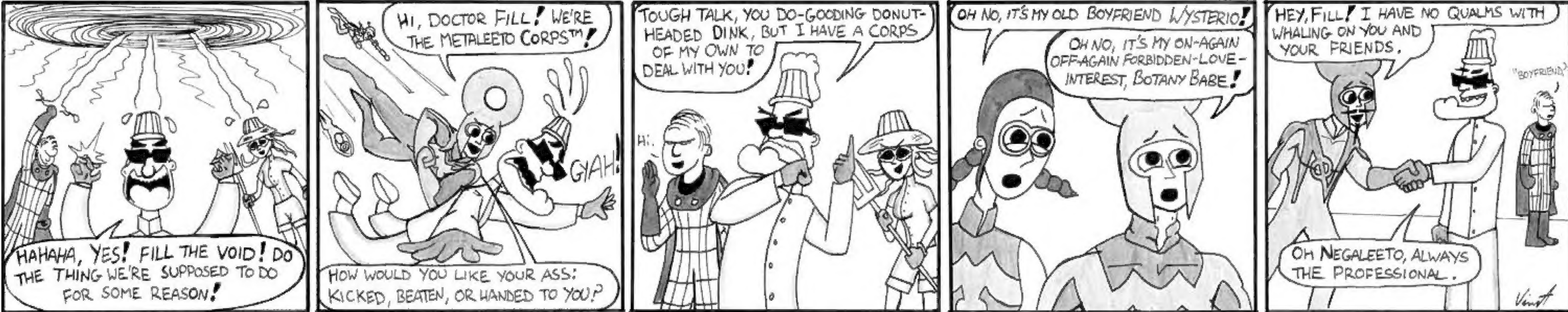


I AM NOT A LUNGFISH by Jessica Pigeau





METALEETO by Ross Vincent



SOLEMN SIMULACRUM by Eric Chiang

Five schoolmates are standing next to each other. Ava, Buster, Cheryl, Daphne, and Elliot. They stand in a row according to these conditions.

- Elliot must stand next to Daphne.
- Buster cannot stand where there is a girl standing immediately to the left and right of him.
- Ava must stand on the outside of the group.
- Cheryl must stand less than two places away from Daphne.

LOGIC GAMES CHARACTERS AS DESCRIBED BY LSAT.

LOGIC GAMES CHARACTERS MY BRAIN WASTES TIME THINKING OF COOL BACKSTORIES FOR.

- Ava's father walked out on her family when she was 12. She went through bouts of self-harm and finds it difficult to maintain trust in relationships. She knows a bouncer at every bar in town and smokes to look older than she is.
- Buster's known he's gay his whole life and his four close friends are the only people he's told. He's terrified of what his father would think. Truth is, His parents had figured it out years ago and can't wait for him to get it out in the open already.
- Cheryl has constantly felt overshadowed by her twin sister Daphne. It was in high school when Cheryl first experienced a higher of degree of popularity with their peers. She is known as the "easier" twin at parties.
- Daphne is a straight shooter. Everything seems to come easily for her. A hurried misreading of Camus' *The Stranger* at an early age contributes highly to her sense of self-righteousness and arrogance toward her peers.
- Elliot is a natural athlete and already has scholarship offers to schools all across the country after graduation. Daily, he averages text messages from 6.4 different girls asking to "hang out". He likes Daphne, but accidentally hooked up with her sister Cheryl at a party.

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**THINGS I WOULD DO IF I WERE A TWILIGHT VAMPIRE**

1. Travel
2. Build roads in impoverished nations.
3. Dedicate my immortal life to learning advanced science and medicine, and not just repeat high school like a tool.
4. Vampire baseball (I admit, that WAS an awesome idea).
5. Volunteer to be the first person to go to Mars as well as return to Earth because I'd be immortal and shit.
6. Rough vampire sex, but only during thunderstorms so as to cover the sound.

# askDr. Donna

WRITTEN BY **Dr. Donna Cave**

**Dear Dr. Donna:** For a few months now I've noticed that my nails have been frequently chipping at the ends. If they don't chip, they usually break very easily and I get many hangnails. It's really frustrating! I consume the recommended two servings of dairy products each day and have a pescetarian diet. I don't know what to do! Please help me. :)  
- Desperado

**Dear Desperado:** Some years ago, I worked in a small town where locals were regularly scammed out of their hard-earned dollars by a travelling iridologist, who would look in these folks' eyes, express some kind of grave health "concern" and then charge \$200 for the same advice about healthy living that I used to give my patients for free. Quackery at its finest — and it was hard not to take it personally when my patients sought out what was essentially the latest incarnation of a snake oil salesman. However,

nails are a different story, as many diseases and conditions can cause nail changes. I am going to confine today's remarks to normal appearing nails that have distal brittleness. If the nails have lines, streaks, pits, grooves, colour changes or are sending out telepathic rays, you should get a doctor to look at them.

The first thing you need to know, Desperado, is that unless you are crunching and swallowing those fish bones, you are not getting enough calcium in your diet. The Canadian recommended daily allowance is 1,000 mg, which is the equivalent of four servings of dairy products. Pescetarian diets can also lack protein and iron, so come in and see the dietician at the University Health Centre (phone ahead for an appointment) to make sure that both you and your diet are well balanced.

You will also find it helpful to know that frequent exposure to moisture and detergents makes nails more fragile. This means you now have a handy excuse when the roommates threaten to evict you over the large, unwashed pile of dishes in the sink, or for shirking the weekly cleaning

chores yet again. Unfortunately, your roomies will probably point out that rubber gloves are relatively cheap. If you are a competitive swimmer, though, avoiding moisture is a bit more challenging, as the gloves will slow you down.

Nail polish does not work, and in fact, can be part of the problem. However, you could try painting on a nail strengthener such as Sally Hansen Hard As Nails. Trim your nails short and cut all hangnails immediately to avoid pulling on them.

The bummer about the nail polish is that next week is PRIDE week at U of A, so you'll need to find some other way to display your rainbow colors during Monday's parade at noon. Even worse, it is really going to affect your dominance of the OUTreach drag show on Friday. Lucky for you, there are all kinds of other activities, including speakers, art shows, yoga and even a Lister dodgeball extravaganza, where no one will care what color your nails are. Find out more at prideweek.ualberta.ca.

Health and Wellness questions? E-mail me at [askdrdonna@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:askdrdonna@gateway.ualberta.ca) or click the link to Ask Dr Donna at [thegatewayonline.ca/](http://thegatewayonline.ca/)

# sudoku

8			9				4	
		3		2				
		1		3				8
	9	5			4			
2								1
				2		5	7	
6				7		3		
				4		7		
	7				8			6

Sudoweb.com

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# EDMONTON PARTY GUIDE

## GUINNESS

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### SATURDAY MARCH 16

2000 partiers, 6 routes, 10 participating locations!  
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2 BONUS ROUTES SUNDAY MARCH 17

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WHYTE AVE

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

\$3

 DRINKS 

\$4

 SHOTS

AFTER 8:00PM

FEATURED DJ'S AT 10:00PM

EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT

# LEGENDARY

# 75¢ DRAFT

4.5oz

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PLUS \$4 HIBALLS (10z) ALL NIGHT

NO COVER ALL NIGHT WITH STUDENT ID

## KNOXVILLE'S

TAVERN

# PARTY CUP

# FRIDAYS

# \$4

## HIBALLS + DRAFT

Let's get rowdy!

## KNOXVILLE'S

TAVERN